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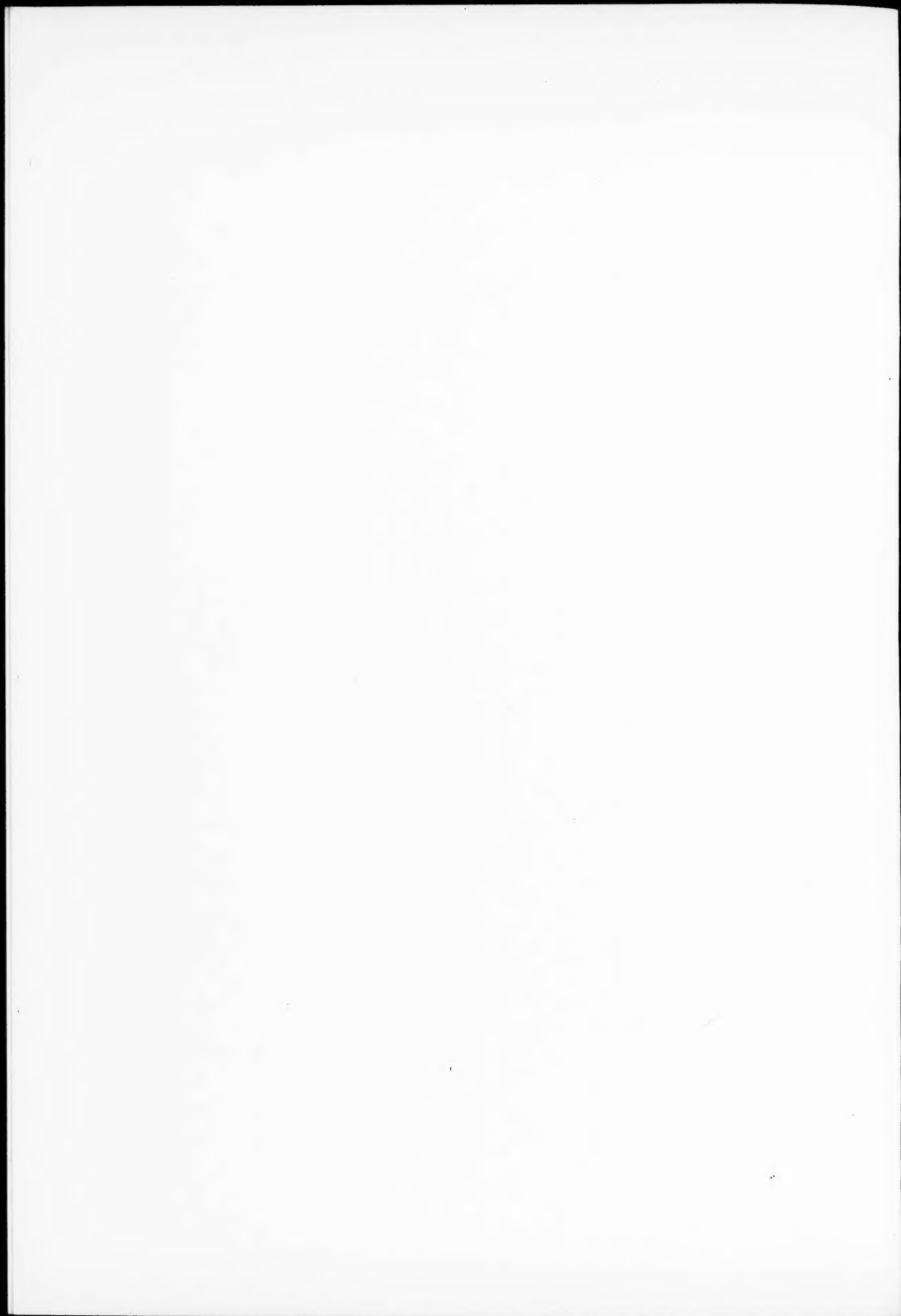
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DEEL 6

OKTOBER 1938

No. 2



SUID-AFRIKAANSE BIBLIOTEKE

Die Offisiële Orgaan van die Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteekvereniging

Deel 6

Oktober—1938

No. 2

KINDERLEKTUUR IN AFRIKAANS

vir kinders tot op die ouderdom van 12 jaar

deur

JESSIE HEAN¹

DOEL VAN ONDERSOEK

Die doel is hier hoofsaaklik om aan te wys watter kinderbundels vir die verskillende ouderdomme beskikbaar is, en watter boeke die gewone kind graag lees. Dit is opmerklik dat die leesstof waarvan die meeste kinders voorsien word, maar selde gegradeer word na die kind se bevattingvermoë en kring van belangstelling. Tog moet elkeen erken wat met die kind se geestelike en karakter-ontwikkeling te doen het, dat die keuse van hulle eerste lektuur besonder belangrik is. Van die gehalte van die eerste boekies wat hy lees hang die groei van die kind se kunsgevoel af, en ook ten dele die vorming van sy karakter. Om dié rede is dit een van die grootste dienstes wat ouer of onderwyser aan die kind kan bewys, om hom 'n voorsmaak te gee van goeie letterkunde.

Na die kind op eie houtjie begin lees het, en die waardering van goeie boeke aangekweek is, spreek dit vanself dat 'n toenemende mate van vryheid gegee mag word in die keuse van lektuur. Tegelykertyd moet die grootmense sorg dat daar nog altyd genoeg geskikte boeke byderhand is. Gelukkig is kinderbundels nou so goedkoop dat dit baie min kos om die kind se boekrakkie vol te hou. Vir dié wat kinders liefhet is dit ook meer 'n plesier as plig om sulke boekies uit te soek.

Vroeër, toe die aantal Afrikaanse kinderbundels gering was, het die kleinspan natuurlik min aanmoediging gekry om te lees. Naderhand, egter, het 'n paar kinderboekies 'n beskeie intrede gemaak naas die boeke vir volwassenes. Hierdie baanbrekertjies het goeie werk gedoen, en die voorraad kinderboeke het geleidelik aangegroei, sodat daar nou verhaaltjies, gediggies en selfs toneelstukkies verkrygbaar is vir kinders van enige ouderdom.

¹ Proefskrif aangeneem deur die Natalse Universiteitskollege (Universiteit van Suid-Afrika) vir die graad van Meester in die Lettere (M. A.).

Vir die meeste mense is die probleem egter om die mees geskikte boekies uit te kies; as hulle weet watter boeke ander kinders geniet het, word hulle keuse egter vergemaklik. Ongelukkig help 'n katalogus maar min, want dit gee net die titels van die bundels, en in boek-resensies word die afdeling "Kinderbundels" afgeskeep. Advertensies gee wel nadere besonderhede, maar dit gebeur dikwels dat mindergeskikte werke geprys word, terwyl baie van die beste kinderbundels nooit vermeld word nie, en dus feitlik onbekend bly. Baie vertalings van verhale uit ander tale is byvoorbeeld steeds in aanvraag weens aantreklike advertensies. Toe daar nog behoefte was aan oorspronklike Afrikaanse boeke, was sulke vertalings wel nodig om die leemte aan te vul, maar hulle is gou vervang deur kinderbundels met 'n tipies Afrikaanse gees en atmosfeer, iets wat in selfs die beste vertaling ontbreek. Om hierdie rede veral word die lees van vertalings afgeraai. Na die kind se letterkundige smaak gevorm is, kan hy gerus kennis maak met die beste stories uit die Europese letterkunde, maar dit moet in die reël nie gedurende die vormingstadium geskied nie. Buitendien val die kind se eie voorkeur, in byna elke geval, op die oorspronklike werke. "*Die Gedagteloo van Boetie in die Skool*" is tipies:

"Vertel ons," sê hy, "van Tier en Bobbejaan;
Hoe Jakkals ou Broer Wolf net altyd fop.
Hoe Duimpie wegkruip in die skilpaddop.
Ons sal die ander goed maar liefs laat staan.

Vertel ons hoe die Trekkers in die Veld
Die groot wild skiet, en in die donker nag
Voorby die laerpoort wakker staan op wag
Gewapen teen die Kaffers se geweld.

Dit wil ons hoor. Dan sit ons stil en soet,
Elkeen net soos 'n muis in 'n kalbas;
Ons weet mos dit is alles waar en vas.
Vir Bobbejaan en Jakkals ken ons goed.

Kaffers het onse Grootjie baie geskiet!
Ou 'fairies' is mooi goed om dit te doen,
Al maak hul nou 'n wa van 'n pampoen!"

Dit bring ons by die vereistes van goeie kinderlektuur, dit wil sê, so ver as hulle vasgestel kan word. Die beste kinderbundels is dié wat net geskryf is om geluk te verskaf aan die lesertjies, en hulle is gewoonlik fris, spontaan en derhalwe populêr. Daar is baie Afrikaanse werkies van hierdie aard, wat ook 'n eervolle plek verdien, vergeleke by die kinderlektuur van ander lande. Op tenminste een gebied durf ons selfs sê dat die Afrikaanse kinderverhaal dié van ander lander oortref, nl. die diere storie. Dit is wel moontlik dat daar diereverhale vir jong mense in ander tale geskryf is, wat dieselfde insig en belangstelling in die dierelewe openbaar, maar dit is nie eintlik te verwagte

nie. Selfs die jongste kinders luister graag na stories van wolf en jakkals en dergelike diere. Hulle kan die verbinding van werklikheid en fantasie maklik verstaan, en die doen en late van die diere wat die hoofrol speel is 'n tema waarvan almal hou. Naderhand word Hasie, Bobbejaan, Skilpad, Tingtinkie en hulle maters beminde ou vriende. As die kinders dan groot word, en 'n stadium bereik waar hulle leesstof hoofsaaklik op konkrete feite gebaseer is, lees hulle die diereverhale van die Hobsons en ander skrywers, byna stukkend.

Sulke diereverhale beantwoord aan die vernaamste vereistes van geskikte kinderlektuur. 'n Ideale kinderboek is volkome vry van swaarmoedigheid of sentimentaliteit. Die inhoud van die leesstof maak 'n diep indruk op die jong leser se gemoed, want vir hom is alles waar. Daar is dus geen plek vir die groewige of moraliserende in die kinderbibliotekie nie. Kindergeluk of enige fase van die kind se kleurrike droom en wenslewe moet liever uitgebeeld word. Verder moet taal en styl kinderlik-eg wees, sonder kinderagtigheid of strewe na effek. Die boek is dan sonnig en natuurlik, soos 'n ware uiting van die kindersiel.

Kontinuiteit en spanning is ook noodsaaklik om die kind aan die lees te hou, sodat hy lus kry om nog meer boeke te lees.

Die uiterlike aantreklikheid van die boek is natuurlik van minder belang maar 'n handige formaat en kleurvolle, dog praktiese omslag help baie, veral in die kindertuin, om liefde vir boeke aan to kweek.

Dan moet leesstof vir kinders natuurlik by die leeftyd van die leser pas. Die kleintjies begin, byvoorbeeld, met sprokies en rympies, terwyl die ouer kind daardie boeke lees waarvan die inhoud sy eie gedagtegang en lewensfeer weerspieël. Vaste skeidingslyne kan egter nie tussen die verskeie afdelinge getrek word nie, want die voorliefdes van individuële kinders berus op hulle persoonlike geaardheid. Dit is hier maar net moontlik om 'n idee te kry van 'n uitvoerbare indeling wat ten dele aan die vereistes beantwoord, en die lyste wat gegee word kan natuurlik geen aanspraak op volledigheid maak nie.

Die doel van die ondersoek was ook om uit te vind op watter gebiede daar nog 'n geringe aantal kinderboeke bestaan of waar nog meer bundels welkom sou wees, en dus watter soort werke op die oomblik nodig is.

BRONNE EN MIDDELE

Die meeste van die boeke wat hier bespreek word, is geleen van verskeie openbare of skoolbiblioteke of anders van kinders wat die nodige bundels besit het. Die voorraad boeke in hierdie kinderbiblioteke of op skool boekrakke was dikwels baie skraal en het gewoonlik uit net dieselfde bundels bestaan. Die algemene mening is klaarblyklik dat hierdie boekies feitlik die

enigste is wat vir kinders geskik is, 'n idee waarvoor die gewone katalogus verantwoordelik mag wees. Selfs as 'n volle katalogus kinderbundels geraadpleeg was en die keuse dus ruimer gewees het, wat dit nog teleurstellend om te sien hoe dikwels vertalings bo oorspronklike werkies verkies is.

Daar was ook enkele biblioteke en skole waar daar hoegenaamd geen boeke, selfs nie die bekende *Jongspan* vir die kinders was nie. Baie Afrikaanssprekende kinders het Engelse stories gehoor en gelees maar nooit 'n Afrikaanse bundeltjie in die hande gekry nie. Dat sulke kinders Afrikaanse boekies altyd gretiglik lees is volkome bewys dat hulle leesstof in hulle eie taal nodig het, maar net nie kan kry nie. Dit is jammer dat hulle hierdie geboortereg moet kwytraak veral as ons onthou hoe ryk Afrikaans vandag aan goeie kinderboeke is.

METODES

Die opinies wat hier meegedeel word is in byna elke geval, dié van die jong kinders self. Hulle is natuurlik die beste kritici van kinderbundels; 'n grootmens dink dikwels dat 'n boek geskik is, om later uit te vind dat die jongspan geensins van die verhaal of gediggies hou nie. As 'n ander kind 'n sekere boek aanbeveel het, kan 'n mens egter taamlik seker wees dat dit ook ander lesertjies sal behaag.

Om uit te vind watter leesstof in die smaak van die heel kleinste val, moes die verhale of gediggies natuurlik aan die kinders voorgelees word, óf in die skool, óf tuis deur 'n ouer broer of suster. Die jongste kinders is gewoonlik maklik tevrede gestel want hulle hou van enige eenvoudige verhaal-tjie of gedig. Hulle vra egter weer om daardie stories wat hulle besondere plesier gegee het, of bied self aan om die verhale te illustreer en vertel. Daar-deur kan uitgevind word watter boeke hulle die meeste van hou.

Wat die ouer kinders betref, d. w. s. dié bo nege jaar is die verkrygbare boeke aan die kinders geleen. Na die kind 'n boek gelees het, het hy sy opinie daaroor uitgespreek, en dit aan ander aanbeveel as hy genot daaruit geskep het. Die kinders het hulle deel aan die proefnemings klaarblyklik geniet en was altyd volkome gewillig om goedkeurende of afkeurende kritiek uit te oefen.

Engelse en Duitse kinders het ook opinies bygedra, maar dit is hoofsaaklik net dié van Afrikaanssprekendes wat aangehaal word. Daar is inderdaad maar min verskil in die smaak van kinders uit die drie rasse, behalwe dat die Engelse kind meer belang in feestories en dergelike stel, en dat hy, heel waarskynlik weens moeilikheid met die taal, van eenvoudiger stories hou. 'n Duitse kind, aan die ander kant lees en geniet boeke wat die meeste van die ander kinders minder aantreklik vind, byv. reisverhale, geskiedkundige werke en moeiliker gedigte.

Die lieftingsboekies van die kleintjies is Mev. Carinus se bundeltjies (poësie en prosa) veral *Tien Langoor Hasies*, *Veldmensies* en *Die Sterrekinder-tjies*; Jeanne du Plessis se *Boglandse Briefies* en 'n paar van die eenvoudige gediggies uit J. R. L. van Bruggen se versameling *Kleuterversies*.

As die kinders 'n jaar of wat ouer word luister hulle graag aan Helena Lochner se *Vrolike Versies Boek I* en eenvoudige stories soos haar *Geleende Velskoene*, en *Drie ou Broertjies*, *Elsie die Veldkindjie* deur Rikie Postma en Langenhoven; *Jantjie Muis* en *Jakob Slang* sowel as baie van Visser se kinder-gediggies is ook steeds in aanvraag.

Die standerd-drie kind hou ook baie van Helena Lochner se boeiende stories (bv. *Die Goue Sleutel*, en *Ou Mama Kromneus*), *Kleuterversies* (J. R. L. van Bruggen), *Daardie Drietal* deur Sylvia Moerdyk, en baie versies uit Christa van Tonder se *Hartediefies* is ook populêr.

Die geliefkoosde boeke van kinders in standerd-vier was *Brolloks en Bit-tergal* deur Langenhoven, M. E. Rothmann se *Kammalanders* en *Verspotte Versies* (Keet). Wat die nog ouer kinders betref, het die meisies gewoonlik die skoolstories van Stella Blakemore, M. E. R. (Jong Dae) en Eva Walter (*Vier Vriendinne*) geprys en aan ander aanbeveel, terwyl die seuns, sonder uitsondering *Patrys Hulle* van E. B. Grosskopf as die beste boek beskou het. H. Brand se speurderstories, verhale oor sport deur I. D. du Plessis, en die dierestories van die Hobsons het ook besondere byval gevind.

Die leesstof word hier onder die vier afdelinge, Tydskrifte, Prosa, Poesie en Toneelstukkies verdeel.

A. TYDSKRIFTE

Die Jongspan, vroeër *Die Kleinspan*, die enigste weekblad vir kinders, is 'n besonder waardevolle en welkome bydrae tot die kinderlektuur. Dit kan met die grootste vrymoedigheid aanbeveel word vir kinders van enige ouderdom, want elke lesertjie sal daarin iets kry wat hy graag wil lees. Elke uitgawe bevat 'n byna verbasende hoeveelheid kort—en vervolghverhale, gediggies, toneelstukkies, raaisels, lewensbeskrywings van beroemde mense, of artikels oor die een of ander tydverdryf. Die stories wat daarin verskyn strek die skrywers gewoonlik tot eer, en alles word ryklik geïllustreer.

'n Glanspunt is die bladsy "Wat Oral Gebeur", gewy aan 'n oorsig van die belangrikste gebeurtenisse van die week. Die taal is so eenvouding dat die standerd-vier kind dit kan verstaan, en watter kind voel nie ewe grootmens by die lees van 'n egte nuus-blad nie?

Die *Jongspan* is onder die bekwame redaksie van Dr. C. F. Albertyn, wat niks agterweë laat om die blad aantreklik te maak nie. Dit is dus geen wonder dat die kinders elke week met blye verwagting daarna uitsien nie.

Byna al die ander koerante en tydskrifte wy gereeld plek aan 'n kinderbriewebussie, of kindergeselskolom : soos by *Die Jongspan* word soms bydrae of briewe van die kinders gedruk, want die ander kinders lees altyd soiets met genoeë.

B. PROSA

VIR DIE KIND ONDER 7 JAAR

Op die gebied van prosa is daar natuurlik meer kinderboeke as onder die afdelinge poësie en drama. Tog is dit dikwels baie moeilik om prosabundels vir die heel jongste kinders te kry. Hulle is veral dank verskuldig aan Mevr. A. E. Carinus vir haar onderhoudende werkies. Sy is veral bekend as 'n bekwame skryfster van kinderversies, maar hierdie *Kleingoed Boekies* bevat eenvoudige verhale wat enige kind met belangstelling sal volg, as hulle aan hom voorgelees word. Selfs die kindjie wat pas begin lees het, sal *Stories met Prentjies*, 'n *Boekie vir my*, en *Speelmaats se A. B. C.* verstaan en geniet. Ander boekies in dieselfde serie is *Fyn en Klein*, *My Poppies*, en *Speelmaats op die Plaas*. Hierdie boeke, met hulle helder druk en pragtige illustrasies, is onder die geskikste bundels vir kinders van hierdie ouderdom, wat totnogtoe gedruk is.

Dokter Sprinkaan, ook deur Mevr. Carinus, is vol fris komiese trekke ; daarin word die Sprinkandokter en sy snaakse pasjente beskrywe. Twee ander boeke deur hierdie skryfster is *Teddie*, die grappige geskiedenis van 'n beertjie, en *Hansie gaan See-toe*. Hansie ontmoet die sandman, en sien seeperdjies, allerhande soorte vissies, en selfs die paleise van die meerminnetjies. Al die bogenoemde boekies is klein en handig, en versier met baie prente.

Nog 'n prosaboekie vir hierdie stadium is *Hansie en die Bessiekinders*, deur M. E. Rothmann. Dit is eintlik 'n prenteboek met kort verklarende paragrawe onder die tekeninge.

Vertalings van Beatrix Potter se bekende boekies oor konyntjies en ander diere is ook verkrygbaar. Die stories is in duidelike, eenvoudige verhaaltrant oorvertel deur Mevr. Carinus en ander. *Die Verhaal van die Flopsiefamilie*, bv., of van die ondeunde *Pieter Konyntjie*, *Bennie Blinkhaar* en *Mevrou Pikfyn*, is maklik om te lees, en die skryfster het onderwerpe behandel waarin die meeste kinders belang stel.

Kabouters en Feë, leesboekies deur Ella Mackenzie, is 'n besonder aantreklike serie van twaalf stories vir die heel kleintjies, sorgvuldig gerangskik na gelang van die kind se vooruitgang. Die maklikste is *Polla Wiet*, gevolg deur *Die Rotsfee* en die *Seefee* en *Die Seeninf* en ander stories. Langenhoven se *A. B. C. Boekie* en die *A. B. C. Boek vir Afrikaanse Kinders* is populêr, en

Klein Kinderstories vir die Sub-standerds is ook min of meer geskik vir kinders van hierdie ouderdom. Verder hou die kleintjies hulle gewoonlik besig met versies en rympies.

7 TOT 8 JAAR

Hier is die voorraad prosabundels ook taamlik gering. Die nuwe serie *Bybelse Prenteboeke* is onder die belangrikste leesstof. Die gekleurde omslag en groot helder druk dra by tot die populariteit van hierdie kort eenvoudige stories uit die Ou en Nuwe Testament. Daar is agt titels, nl. *Die Verhaal van Moses*, *Verhale uit die Ou Testament* (Noach, Abraham en Jakob), *Verhale van Daniel en Elia*, *Josef*, *Simson en Dawid*, *Die Kind van Bethlehem*, *Verhale van Jesus*, *Jesus en sy Vriende*, en *Verhale van Paulus*. Die waarde van sulke boekies kan nouliks oorskat word, en hierdie serie veral sal die kind se leeslus gaande hou. 'n Ouer *Bybelse Prenteboek*, versier met groot gekleurde plate, is dié van J. A. du Plessis.

Iets waaruit die kinders genot skep, is Jeanne du Plessis se *Boglandse Briefies*, herdruk uit *Die Jongspan*. Die kinders hou almal van die vrolike Boglanders, en veral van die avontuurlike kaskenades van Joffie, wat "sommer altyd" in die moeilikheid raak.

Stefan in die Tuin, deur Bruwer, hoort ook by hierdie groep. Ou skilpad, die krieke, die verkleurmannetjie en die kwikstertjies mot almal padgee vir hierdie klein karnallies. Hy steur hom selfs nie aan die ellendige lot van die houtpop, Karools, wat onder die Kraan bly tot sy gesigstrekke heeltemal afgewas is nie.

'n Paar boeke uit die *Sonskyn-serie*, deur M. de Villiers pas ook by die sewe—of agjarige kind se leesvermoë, bv. *Die Awonture van Toktokkie die wekkertjie* en sy twee maats, Lomelui die Dromer en Rykhart die Liefeling in die land van die eeue; die storie van *Redder Goedhart en Koning Swaar-moed*, en *Droomeiland en ander stories*. Die serie bevat sketse, stories en same-sprakies, waarvan party egter misluk, as kinderlektuur, weens prekerigheid, en te veel nadruk op die woord "Moenie" wat kinders liewers wil vergeet. Die boekies is bedoel as 'n self-lees serie, en om dié rede is die druk opsetlik groot en helder. 'n Paar woorde is nogtans baie moeilik, en party kinders sal nie maklik oor die weg kom nie, sonder hulp. 'n Meer populêre boek deur M. de Villiers is haar *Stories van Luilak, Langoor en Doem-doempie*.

Rikie Postma lewer twee interessante stories, nl. *Elsie die Veldkindjie* en *Krismisland*. 'n Merkwaardige kenmerk van *Elsie die Veldkindjie* is die eg Afrikaanse atmosfeer, Elsie het maats gemaak met die voëltjies, paddas, veld-blommetjies en allerhande diertjies. Sy word uitgenooi na feestelikhede soos 'n Padda se verjaarsdagpartytjie, sy speel met die velddwergies, en voer telkens interessante gesprekke met haar vriendinnetjie Weerklank.

Die tweede verhaaltjie *Krismisland*, is 'n storie vir die stadskinders. Kotie en Katotjie, wat in 'n groot stad woon, besoek Vader Krismis se speelgoedfabriek en ontmoet al die vriendelike speelgoed. Die verhaaltrant in albei boeke is duidelik en eenvoudig, want Rikie Postma verstaan die kuns om vir klein kindertjies te skrywe.

Die Kaskenades van Bruintjie Beer deur Tant Rikie (in drie deeltjies), bestaan uit kort verhaaltjies waarin Otjie, Jakkalsie, Dassie en ander diere-vriende aan die lesertjies voorgestel word. In *Konyn*, deur B. Traas, is daar ook diere wat praat. Hulle is die speelmaats van die heldinnetjie.

Ander boeiende boeke is *Boet Alleen*, uit die *Vry en Bly* serie leesboeke, *My Prettige Boekie* deur B. Laubscher (Selflees serie) en 'n aantreklike storie deur Eitemal, nl. *Stafie en Santie in Kabouterland*. 'n Kaboutertjie smeer, "toorgom" aan die kinders se skouers sodat hulle Kabouterland toe kan vlieg om daar deel te neem aan die feestelikhede. *Goeie Vriende* en Jeanne du Plessis se *Skatterjat en Tedjon* is ook *Selflees* boekies. Die laasgenoemde bestaan veral uit grappige gesprekkies tussen Skatterjat en haar beertjie "Teddie John" wat verkeerd gedoop is omdat hy die predikant aan die neus beetgekry het. Arme Tedjon wil altyd soet wees, maar hy vind dit darem moeilik; Skatterjat moet dan ook deel van die skuld dra.

J. Wapenaar se *Krulkop die Wolkkindjie* is 'n sonderlinge verhaaltjie waarin die kind kennis maak met Papareën, Tantemaan, Oupason en baie ander. Hy lees ook hoe Krulkop die verlore sleutel van die reënkas gesoek, en eindelik gekry het, en hoe hy vir die paddatjies probeer skoolhou het.

Indien aanvullingslektuur nog nodig is, kan 'n paar bundels uit *Ons Leesuurtye* aanbeveel word. Hierdie serie bevat 'n aantal stories uit ander lande, wat Mevr. A. E. Carinus in Afrikaans bewerk het. *Die Troue Hond*, *Die Wit Takbokkie*, *Die Skoelapper se Partytjie* en *Wollie en Donsie* is geskik vir kinders van hierdie ouderdom.

8 TOT 9 JAAR, d. w. s. Std. 1 en 2

Na hulle hul agjarige leeftyd bereik het, begin die meeste kinders meer belang stel in lees. Dit is waarskynlik omdat die gewone kind nou baie makliker kan lees; hy verstaan die verhaaltjies sonder behulp van grootmense, en vind plesier daarin. Dit is gelukkig dat daar nou baie Afrikaanse boeke is wat juis by hierdie groepie se leesvermoë pas. 'n Aantal van die gewilde verhaaltjies deur Helena Lochner kom eers in aanmerking, nl. die taamlik eenvoudige *Poppie se Rusie*, *Hoe die Sprinkane Horinkies gekry het*, *Die Geleende Velskoene* en *Drie ou Broertjies*. Hierdie ywerige skryfster beskik oor 'n eie, lewendige styl; haar wonder vreemde verhale vind algemene byval by seuns en dogters van agt tot twaalf jaar oud, en word selfs as aangename leesstof beskou deur nog ouer kinders. Sy verstaan die literêre smaak van die

kinders, en wy haar talente daaraan om elke lesertjie van goeie gesonde lektuur te voorsien.

'n Boek wat ewe populêr lyk, is Langenhoven se verhaal, *Jantjie Muis en Jakob Slang*. Daarin beskrywe hy, met behulp van illustrasies, hoe Jantjie en Kootjie Muis ou Jakob Slang 'n knoop in sy eie lyf laat trek. Toe hy weer so maer word dat die knoop losraak, het slim Jantjie nog 'n plan. Hulle laat die slang se stert net soos 'n muis lyk, sodat hy dit insluk. Daarna rol die muisies hom weg soos 'n wiel. Hierdie verhaal is baie onderhoudend vertel, en is buitendien so spannend dat die kinders byna asem ophou terwyl hulle lees.

'n Baie ou vriend wat die kinders vandag nog behaag, is *Die Kaskenades van Klein Duimpie* deur Tannie van die Brandwag. Die drie bundels is orals goed bekend onder die kleinspan, en het hulle deeltjie bygedra om die leeslus van die kind te help ontwikkel. Die verafrikaanste Duimpie seëvier oor sy vyande, veral die Kafferbediende "Jeems". Hy ry op 'n sprinkaan lugskip, gebruik 'n hoendereierdop as roeiboot of kruip weg agter 'n grassie; in die kinderoog egter lyk dit alles volkome oortuigend. Hulle vind die verhale fris en boeiend, en volg Duimpie se awonture met gespanne aandag.

'n Minder-geslaagde boek vir die ag of negejarige kind is J. A. Coetzee se *Klein Duimpie en Pinkie*. Die twee gaan op reis met hulle "ryperdjie", Groentjie die voel.

Die Tog van die Swart Kraai, en *Die Swart Kraai in die Land van die Boesmans*, is veral seunsverhale. Die skryfster, M. de Villiers, vertel van 'n wonderlike vliegtuig wat in die lug kon vlie, oorland reis, op die water vaar of onder water duik. Die tweede storie handel oor die aankoms van die snaakse Swart Kraai in die land van die Boesmans en hoe dit hulle laat skrik het.

Wil die kleinspan hoor hoe Jakkals in 'n Harige Ketel verander het, moet hulle *Mollie se Aandstories* lees. Die skrywer, T. A. Spalding, het verskeie Japanse sprokies oortel. Die volgende verhaaltjies, deur "Oom Kerneels, die Kindervriend" (C. J. Langenhoven), word altyd gretig gelees. *Dirkie Mens en Smytjie Brood*, *Die Twee Oorlosies*, en *Kootjie*. Die laasgenoemde boek bevat die spannende storie van 'n nuuskierige varkie wat deur Gert Wolf gevang en vir 'n slagvarkie aangehou word. Deur drie betowerde druiwekorrels in te sluk verander hy toe in 'n yslike groot olifant.

My Sewe Maters is ook deur Langenhoven, maar dit is nie so suksesvol as sy ander kinderbundels nie; in hierdie sketsies mis die leser die gewone spontaneïteit en tipiese tergende gees wat 'n kenmerk is van die ander boeke.

Die geskiedenis van 'n varkie is die tema van S. Troskie se *Totterot*, en ook van *Otjie en Piet* deur C. M. Welsford. Otjie en sy broer Piet is varkies met 'n ondernemende gees, en die skrywer vertel op 'n grappige manier hoe hulle konserte hou, of probeer om te vlieg. Ongelukkig is die uitgawe

taamlik oud, en 'n nuwe druk sou welkom wees onder kinders wat van sulke stories hou.

Ander boeke wat vermelding verdien is Ella Mackenzie se *Kammastories*, in twee dele (Selflees serie), 'n reeks verbeeldingryke beskrywings van Likkewaan en Toreetjie se awonture, Bokbokmakiesie se aandparty, en dergelike meer.

Ander geskikte boeke is : *Onder in die Groot Blou See*, *Die Feetjie en die Betowerde Muis*, *Kasper en die Krap*, en *Die Esel en die Ooievaars* (alvier deur Elizabeth Saunders) *Rollie-Pollie en die Glimlagfeetjies* deur Sita, Helen Blackmore se verhaal *Toe Liesbet nog Klein was*, *Bettie op die Plaas* van S. Niemeyer, *Kollie*, die verhaal van 'n hond deur Samuel Kühn, *Boet en Annie* uit die *Vry en Bly* serie Leesboekies, en die volgende boeke uit *Ons Leesurtjie* : *Die Skippie*, *Die Jong Reus*, *Koning Midas*, *Die Waternooientjie* en *Roland en Meiblom*.

9 TOT 10 JAAR, d. w. s. Std. 2 en 3

Hierdie jong lede van die kleinspan beskou enige boek deur Helena Lochner as 'n goeie vonds. Enigiets kan gebeur in haar verhale en die lesertjies sien uit met blye verwagting na die volgende verrassende gebeurtenis. Mej. Lochner maak ook goeie gebruik van klanknabootsing om die spanning te verhoog. Die kinders hoor dus die "toef-taf, toef-taf" van haar voete in die gang voor 'n heks verskyn, of die "Kirts-Karts" van 'n mes wat geslyp word.

Vir die baie fyngvoelige kind sal 'n paar van die stories egter te grillerig wees. Die wrede hekse en monsters en mensvreterers wat in *Ou Voetoog*, *Pinkie die Hotnotjie*, *Die Mensaap*, *Die Drie Eiertjies* en 'n paar ander verhale beskryf is, sal kinders met sterk verbeelding onaangenaam laat gril. Dit moet nogtans erken word dat daar maar min sulke kinders is ; oor die algemeen verlustig die jongspan hulle in die heel aakligste besonderhede! Dit geld veral vir seuns oor die ag jaar, wat hulle leesstof dikwels onder die sensasielektuursoek.

Die volgende boeke handel oor 'n ryk verskeidenheid van stof, en is soos al haar ander verhale, goed versorg in taal en styl: *Die Goue Sleuteltjie*, *Die Perlemoenpaleis*, *Die Prinses se Pêrels*, *Ou Koning van Klou*, *Die Held Woltemade*, *Die Brawe Boertjie*, *Die Sterk Man*, *Die Vier Voëlverskrikkers*, *O, Hoe Jok Jy!*, *Wagter die Knap Hond*, *Die Kliphuisie*, *Die Koning se Beeswagterjie* en *Die Blou Skoenlappers*. Of dit 'n grappige gebeurtenis is, soos *Ou Mama Kromneus*, 'n sprokie soos *Die Berg se Geheim*, of die legende van *Tafelberg se Kleed*, stel dit die kind volkome tevrede.

Na Helena Lochner dra Leipoldt die meeste bundeltjies by tot hierdie groep. *Paddastories*, *Die Wonderlike Klok* en *Die Mossie wat wou ryk word*

munt uit deur die gemoedelike styl, en die skrywer se goeie insig in die gedagtegang van die kind. *Paddastories vir die Peetkind* is baie onderhoudend vertel; om die kinders te vermaak, beskryf Leipoldt hoe Kakik, die nuuskierige Paddatjie, allerhande snaakse ongediertes soos die Driesiebeso en ander teëgekom het. Veral die lelike ou Issiegrimmiebonso word so oortuigend voorstel dat die kind feitlik begin glo dat soiets werklik bestaan.

As die Natuur Gesels, deur dieselfde skrywer, is ook die soort boek wat help om die kind se leeslus gaande te hou. Hierdie natuurstories is tegelykertyd boeiend en leersaam. Leipoldt se doel was om die kinders se belangstelling te probeer opwek vir die groot verskeidenheid van diere, insekte, voëls en plante in hulle eie land. Die skrywer is self 'n liefhebber van die natuur, en hier sien ons hom ook as 'n uitstekend goeie vertolker van alles wat in die diere of plantewêreld omgaan. Die eerste deel van *As die Natuur Gesels* bevat onder ander die volgende natuursketse: "In die Lemoenboord", "Die Kremetartboom", "Die Rots en die See", "Die Perd en die Haarskeeters", en "Die Perdeby". In Deel II vertel die voëls dan hulle eie stories, ook sonder dat dit in die minste mate onnatuurlik klink.

Ander diereverhale is 'n *Klein Boekie van Diereverhale* deur E. Thornton (Klein Groot Boekies serie), twee bundeltjies deur Sita, en die *Sokkaboeke* van M. E. R. Sita se *Kleingoed van die Vlakte* bestaan uit kort verhale en sketse oor varkies, eendjies ens. Party van die stories is nie alte geskik vir kinders nie, daar hulle met die dood van geliefkoosde huisdiertjies te doen het. 'n Tweede boek *Pokkie en Dorkas*, ook deur Sita, vertel hoe die kinders twee kapokhoendertjies aangehou het. Die simpatieke storie *Danie en sy Perdjie*, is in dieselfde bundel.

Die Sokkaboeke en *Sokka se Plaas* deur M. E. R. hoort by die *Selflees serie*. Albei is stories van Sokrates, die getroue ou skaaphond wat sy eienaars, sowel as hulle plaas, as syne beskou.

S. H. Skaife is die skrywer van *Die Vreemde Ondervindinge van Jan Harmse*; die eerste deel, *Primus en die Seegediertes*, is geskik vir kinders van hierdie leeftyd. Jan sluk 'n paar "wonderlike pille" en word onmiddelik so klein dat hy deel kan neem aan die daaglikse lewe van die "goggas en goeters".

Ander kinderverhale is *Jan en die Tweeling*, en *Gert en Babe* deur Johanna Pienaar. Jan en die tweeling is springlewendige kinders, wat die plaaslewe en hulle vakansies by die strand hartlik geniet. *Gert en Babe* is die storie van die doen en late van twee ander plaaskindertjies op skool en gedurende die vakansie. Die verhaaltrant is fris en natuurlik in albei boeke.

Van 'n soortgelyke aard is J. J. Blom: *Die Boggies van Bosberg*. Dit bevat grepies uit die lewe van 'n paar woelige plaasseuntjies. Die beste sketsies uit die reeks is dié oor die streke van Willempie, "die kleinste seuntjie op die plaas—maar die belangrikste." Daaf is nog 'n beter boek oor dieselfde on-

derwerp, naamlik *Gelukkige Outjies* deur Leon Maré. Dit verskaf altyd genoeg, want alles word weergegee soos dit deur die kinders self ondervind word, en in taal wat hulle maklik kan verstaan en volg. Daar is eenvoudige beskrywinge, bv. van 'n jag op tarentale, 'n veldbrand, die sprinkane, en 'n oggendgalop.

Ou Dae en Dinge is maklik herkenbaar as die werk van Rikie Postma. Dit is 'n vlot-geskrewe verhaaltjie van die vakansie wat Boet en Annie in Kaapstad deurgebring het, en, soos die naam aandui, het dit 'n geskiedkundige agtergrond. Dit is 'n verdienstelike boekie, en die skryfster tref net die regte toon vir 'n kinderboek. Haar *Twee Voortrekkertjies* het ook 'n geskiedkundige agtergrond maar dit is minder knap geskryf. Nogtans gee die boek 'n insig in die lewe op trek, uit die standpunt van die kinders wat daarin deelgeneem het. Sonder om te veel nadruk te lê op die teleurstelling en ontberinge, laat dit die moderne kind tog baie trots voel op sy dapper voorouers.

Buiten dié geskiedkundige-gekleurde verhale is daar ook twee leersame boekies deur F. Bormann en J. Oliver respektiewelik, nl. *Kinders van Allerlei Lande* en *Die Kleinspan in Ander Lande*. Indien leersame en tog boeiende lektuur verlang word, sou altwee nuttig wees. Die held in die eersgenoemde, is 'n seuntjie Frikkie. Hy en sy hondjie Seppie word deur "Vader Krismis" saamgevat op 'n watte-eiland wat deur die lug sweef. Hulle besoek, onder ander nasies, die Eskimos, Arabiere, Sjinese en Rooihuide, en kry 'n deeglike insig in hulle gewoontes en karakters. *Die Kleinspan in Ander Lande* (Klein Groot Boekies serie) vertel hoe die kinders Arabie, Birma, Japan en ander lande besoek.

Daar is ook 'n verhaal deur Langenhoven wat by hierdie groep pas, nl. *Die Krismiskinders*. In sy bekende gesellige styl vertel hy die lotgevolle van drie wonderkindertjies. "Vader Krismis" bring hulle om 'n kinderlose egpaar te troos. Later wil hulle die buurt van die Kangogrotte verlaat, "om ander mense se lewe soet te maak," maar voor hulle kan vertrek, verskyn 'n groot vlermuis wat hulle grot-toe vat op bevel van die Koning van die Donker. Hulle is almal kunstenaartjies, en hy wil hê dat hulle hom hulp met daardie kuns. Toe hulle weier, word hulle in die "uiterste duisternis" gebring, waar hulle nog wag: as ons almal bereid is, sal hulle ons kom help, en gelukkig maak.

Die kinders wat van ware stories hou, sal *Oupa Bloekomboom en ander stories*, deur Leonie, waardeur. Dit is ryklik geïllustreer met kiekies van Basie die Perdjie, Bontrok die Kalfie, Stompie die Hondjie en ander plaasdiere.

Onder die jonger uitgawes is die *Klein Bybelboekies*, 'n reeks wat warm aanbeveel kan word. Daar is ses stories in dies serie, nl. *Die Verhaal van Josef*, *Die Verhaal van Dawid*, *Verhale van die Profete*, *Die Verhaal van Daniel*, *Verhale van Jesus* en *Die Verhaal van Paulus*. Hierdie geskiedenis uit die Ou en Nuwe Testament word in baie duidelike taal oortel, en sal met belangstelling gelees word.

Dan is daar natuurlik ook baie bewerkings van stories uit ander tale, wat hier as aanvullingslektuur mag dien, en ook die volgende oorspronklike werkies. *Outata Eenoog*, en *Die Kaperjolle van die Swaap* deur "Tannie", *Outa Danster en Aia Martha* deur D. J. Seymour, *Sonseuntjies* van K. M. Gerryts, N. Kruger: *Daar was Eendag* en *Oupa Vertel en Skelm* (Vry en Bly serie). Die belangrikste vertalings is die bekende *Sprokies* van Anderson en Grimm, oorgesit deur P. A. M. Brink en D. J. Smal respektiewelik, J. Eybers se bewerking van *Hemelvolk* deur Bonsels, *Klein Ake*, die storie van 'n seuntjie in sy "eie wêreld", bewerk deur C. M. Marais, en D. J. du Toit se vertaling van *Gulliver in Lilliput* en *Gulliver by die Reuse*. Daarby mag die volgende vertalings, uit die *Ons Leesuertjie Serie*, ook gevoeg word: *Doen Jou Plig*, *Op die Proef gestel*, *Die Leuningstoel*, *Koning Midas*, *Die Koning van Goudrivier*, *Die Storie van Aeneas* en *Russiese Volksvertellinge*.

10 TOT 11 JAAR, d. w. s. STD. 3 en 4

Wat die keuse van leesstof vir hierdie kinders betref, moet rekening gehou word met die verskillende voorliefdes van seuns en meisies. Jonger kinders is gewoonlik tevrede om enige interessante boek te lees wat by hulle begripsvermoë pas; met die ontwikkeling van hulle letterkundige smaak word hulle egter meer kieskeurig. Dit is veral die geval met die seuns; alhoewel meisies gewoonlik ook seunsverhale geniet, skaam die seuntjie hom om 'n meisiesboek te lees.

Die boeke van M. E. Rothmann is natuurlik geskik vir seuns en meisies tegelyk. Hulle is baie welkom, selfs onder die jongmense vir wie 'n gewone geskiedenisboek darem maar droog lyk.

Die skryfster wil graag sien dat die kinders meer belang leer stel in die geskiedenis van hulle eie land en voorouers. Sy sê in 'n voorwoord: "Hoe romanties en inspirerend vir die jong gemoed is ons volksgeskiedenis nie—en tog, gaan in maar enige kindertuin en hoor of daar iets vertel word? Jy kom op Robinson Crusoe en Hiawatha se spore af, maar dié van ons mense, glo omdat dit so volop en byderhand is, trek niemand se aandag nie." Haar drie boeke *Vannelewe*, *Kinders van die Voortrek* en *Die Oorwinnaar*, voorsien wel in 'n groot behoefte, want totnogtoe is betreklik min werklik interessante geskiedenisboeke vir kinders uitgegee.

Kinders van die Voortrek is tereg populêr, want die verhaaltjies is boeiend, en die beskrywings raak en lewendig. *Die Oorwinnaar* is 'n ewe suksesvolle poging; daarin word vertel van President Steyn, "'n man wat groot dinge tot stand gebring het, en wat net soos julle sy kinderdae deurgebring het." In die derde boek, *Vannelewe*, luister Sannie na die stories van haar dapper voorouers wat neef Sarel so graag vertel, en leer om daardie voorgeslag te eer.

Ander geskiedkundige boeke is Nico Hofmeyer se *Kykies in Ons Geskie-*

denis, en *Kykies vir die Kinders, I en II*. Die laasgenoemde is eintlik leesboekies ; Deel I het te doen met die periode voor 1806, en Deel II bevat die geskiedenis van 1806 af, tot die Groot Trek. Al mis hulle grotendeels die frisse aantreklikheid van M. E. Rothmann se boekies, kan aldrie nogtans aanbeveel word as kinderlektuur.

Langenhoven se *Eensame Hoop* hoort ook by die geskiedkundige werkies. Ou Vader Tyd en Hoop is karakters in die verhaal wat oor die vroeë geskiedenis van Suid-Afrika handel.

Brolloks en Bittergal, deur dieselfde skrywer, is ook 'n boek wat die klein-span graag oorlees. Soos *Die Eensame Hoop* is dit vir "Kinders van agt tot ag-en-taggentig, vertal uit 'n ou kinderhart". Daar is vier aparte verhaaltjies, nl. *Brolloks*, *Die Eensame Huisie*, *Die Houtboskinders* en *Bertie van die Groot Karo*. Brolloks self, was 'n "lelike, aaklige mensvreter" en towenaar, wat naby die Kango-grotte gewoon het. Die eerste storie vertel hoe die nooientjie Skoonlief die toorwoorde geleer het ; toe Brolloks 'n kindjie steel, gebruik sy die toorwoorde om haar in 'n skoelapper te verander vir 'n uur. Die skoelapper vlieg huistoe, en word weer 'n meisie. *Die Eensame Huisie* is 'n verhaal van twee kinders wat ook gered moet word. Brolloks volg hulle, en word doodgeskiet deur die kinders se vader. In *Die Houtboskinders* beskryf Langenhoven nog 'n awontuur van Rosie en Kosie. Kosie word weggevat deur die Waternooientjie ; Rosie, en 'n vriendelike hasie, wat sy deur middel van 'n betowerde kiere in 'n groot hond verander het, ontmoet Oom Kerneels en sy familie ; hulle sien Kosie in die rivier en red hom met behulp van toorwoorde. In die laaste verhaaltjie lees die kind hoe 'n tweede towenaar, Bittergal, die seun Bertie betower, en in die gedaante van 'n likkewaan wegdra. Naderhand word hy gehelp deur die Sonnemeisie en 'n paar vriendelike voëls.

Die verhale dreig soms om alte grillerig te word, maar, daar Langenhoven die skrywer is, vind 'n mens orals verliggende trekkies. Iets waarin hy uitmunt is die skrywe van natuurwetenskaplike werkies, waarvan die eerste, *Water en sy Aard*, vir hierdie groep kinders geskik is. *Weet Jy Dit ?* deur van Zyl is ook treffend-eenvoudig geskryf. Die meeste kinders vind sulke boekies boeiend en raak gou vertrouwd met die feite wat daarin meegedeel word.

Die natuur is die tema van Leipoldt se *Kampstories*, wat hom as 'n uitstekende verteller toon. Hy het ook Ewald se *Natuursprokies* in Afrikaans oorgesit, maar die bewerking is nie so suksesvol as sy oorspronklike boeke nie. Twee ander bundels deur Leipoldt is *Praatjies met die Kinders*, oor allerlei onderwerpe, en *Stories vir die Kinders*, waarin saga's en legendes uit die Noorse mitologie oorvertel word.

Daar is 'n wye keuse dierestories vir kinders van tien of elf jaar ; onder ander *Op Jag* deur H. J. Bruwer. 'n Klomp seuns wat in die veld uitkamp,

moet allerhande skrikwekkende, sowel as 'n paar prettige awonture deurleef. So 'n boek laat 'n seun belangstel in die dierewêreld, want dit bevat baie mededeling oor verskeie soorte grootwild. So ook by W. J. Viljoen se vertaling van *Jock of the Bushveld* (*Jock van die Bosveld*) 'n Eg-Afrikaanse atmosfeer in 'n vertaling is baie seldsaam, maar hierdie bekende verhaal vertel van Jock en sy baas se ondervindinge en ontkominge in 'n bekende streek.

Met Ander Oë en Ore, deur H. Bruwer (Uit Eie Bodemserie) is 'n minder-geslaagde boek oor diere. Dit bestaan uit 'n reeks beskrywings van patryse, dassies, tortelduiwe en ander voëls of diere; "Oom Henk", die verteller, moedig die lesertjie aan om diere te beskerm, "as jy wil hê dat die natuur jou goedgesind moet wees." Oor die algemeen hou kinders egter meer van stories as van sulke sketse.

'n Diereverhaal wat die meeste kinders graag lees is *Ogus*, 'n baie onderhoudende storie van 'n mak bobbejaan, deur S. Niemeyer. Die illustrasies is besonder knap, en dra by tot die aantreklikheid van die boek.

Daar is ook die fantastiese stories, waar al die diere kan praat, en mense taal verstaan. *Veld en Bos* deur M. Martin bv., uit die *Selflees serie*, bevat grappige diereverhale, waarin Olifant, Jakkals, Wolf, en ander ou vriende elkeen sy rol speel. Ander boekies wat daartoe bydra om die kinders "met die diere en voëls van hulle eie land bekend en bevriend te maak," is von Wielligh se *Dierestories* (in 3 Dele). Die skrywer behandel die verhale soos die Hotnots dit sou doen, en wys orals op gewoontes en verskynsels in die dierewêreld. Hy vertel, onder ander, van die pret van Jakkals en die swaarkry van Wolf, waarom die voëls bontkleurig is, waarom Wolf 'n mank draf het en waarom sommige goggas rondkruip. As kinderlektuur bereik hierdie *Dierestories* 'n hoë peil, en selfs ouer seuns en dogters lees hulle gretiglik.

Die tweede en derde dele van *Die Vreemde Ondervindinge van Jan Harmse*, deur S. H. Skaife, bly nog oor. Hulle is ook geskik vir tien of elfjarige lesers. Die twee bundels is *Dr. Sekundus en die Voëls*, en *Dr. Tertius en die Insekte*. Helena Lochner se *Afrikaanse Aandstories* kan ook aanbeveel word: die kind maak kennis daarin met 'n knap seuntjie en die drie wonderlike wolfhonde wat hom oral vergesel. Fynruik, Versien en Verhoor is die honde se name, en hulle kan tallose wondere verrig.

In Julius Friedenthal se boek *Ondank is die Wêreld se Loon*, speel pratende diere 'n groot rol. Dit is die verhaal van 'n slaaf wat ontsnap, en in aanraking kom met die dierebewoners van die streek waarnatoe hy gevlieg het.

Verder kan die volgende twee diereverhale vermeld word: *Strix*, die verhaal van 'n uil, oorspronklik deur Svend Fleurøn, en oorgesit in Afrikaans deur S. Niemeyer, en *Dierestories* deur Hamelberg ('n reeks kortverhale).

Kinders van hierdie ouderdom is baie vatbaar vir die soort geestigheid wat hulle in M. E. Rothmann se *Kammalanders* vind. Hierdie "Kielie-boek"

is die liefingsverhaal van baie kinders ; dit is naïef en fris en hulle hoor graag van die wonderlike leefwyses van Karokammas, Seekammas en Bergkammas. Die verhaal is selfs voorsien van illustrasies van die snaakse "Sommerkom" en "Hoekomsommerkomkammas."

'n Ander grappige verhaaltjie is *Noekies die Klonkie* deur Mikro. Noekies en sy brakkie veroorsaak verbasend veel ergernis, en herinner 'n mens aan 'n ander kêreltjie wat gedurig kattedwaad aanvang, nl. Uilspieël. (P.A.M. Brink lewer 'n vrye vertaling van die bekende Duitse storie wat ook geskik is vir kinders in die laer skool).

Splinter se Straf, deur Regina Naser is nie eintlik populêr onder die kinders nie. Die stories is uit 'n volwassene se standpunt vertel, veral die eerste verhaal, oor *Splinter se Verlore Skoene*, en die tweede, *Billy-boy*.

Die Silwer Beker, aan die ander kant, is 'n geliefkoosde boek. Maree verstaan die kuns om vir seuns te skrywe, en hierdie verhale van drie seuns op vakansie is vol handeling en geestigheid.

Die volgende boeke is ook geskik ; *Bybelse Verhale* deur Ds. W. A. Joubert, *Uit die Kinderhart* ('n bundel gebedjies vir kinders waarvan party in versvorm en ander in prosa is) deur Ds. en Mevr. Theron, *Die Wiel van Awontuur* uit die *Vry en Bly* serie leesboekies, *Outa Fransie* deur Sita, en Samuel Kühn se verhaal *Kleinbegin se Spook*.

Buiten die bovermeide oorspronklike boeke is daar ook vertalings soos *Deur die Spieël* van Lewis Carroll ; *Peik*, Barbra Ring se verhaal van 'n Klein Noorse seuntjie, oorvertel deur C. M. Marais ; *Vreugdekind*, 'n sprokie deur W. Dannenberg, vertaal deur Esther Kritsinger ; R. L. Stevenson se *Skateiland*, bewerk deur Mevr. Carinus ; *Die Hut van Outa Tom* deur H. Beecher Stowe, *Die Awonture van die Swerwerheld Don Kwikot* deur Cervantes, albei oorgesit in Afrikaans deur P. A. M. Brink ; en *As die Tomahawk Dreig* deur Ivans, vertaal deur J. Es. 'n Aantal boekies uit *Ons Leesuurkje* is ook beskikbaar, nl. *Sasha die Slaaf*, *Die Towerpaleis*, *Die Karavaan*, *Die Sjeik van Alexandrië*, *Robinson Crusoe*, *Sindbad die Seevaarder*, *Kinderjare van 'n Rooihuid* en *Koning Bob die Olifant*.
(word vervolgd)

APPOINTMENTS, RETIREMENTS, ETC.

BARNES—Miss Barnes, formerly of Germiston, has been appointed Librarian of the Witwatersrand Technical College, Johannesburg.

MEWS—Miss Hazel Mews, M.A., F.L.A., until recently employed at the Nonesuch Press has with

SMITH—Miss Anna Smith, B.A., F.S.A.L.A., of Stellenbosch, joined the staff of the Johannesburg Public Library temporarily.

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF THE MORE IMPORTANT PLACES IN SOUTH AFRICA WHERE PRINTING WAS INTRODUCED DURING THE EARLY YEARS

Compiled (with accompanying map) by

ANNA H. SMITH

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- 1784 **Cape Town**, (e Bodwe). Handbills and advertisements by J. C. Ritter. L.1
- 1795 **Cape Town**. Almanach voor 't jaar 1796 by J. C. Ritter. L.2
- 1805 or 1815 **Bethelsdorp**. Tzitzika Thuickwedi mika Khwe-khwenama. L.41
Bl.27

- 1816 **Bethelsdorp.** Spelling broadsheet, which is mentioned by Lloyd as the first publication here. L.110
- 1817 **Graaf Reinet.** Publicatie. De Landrost van G. R., A. Stockenstroom. . . Gedrukt ter Districts Drukkery. . . (Wahlstrand), 8. Mey. L.304 Me.77.
- 1821 **Griquatown.** Sechuana spelling book. L.153
- 1823 **Gwali**, near Alice. Bennie, John. [Xosa Reading Sheet]. (In : *Bantu Studies*, 8, no. 2: 122, June, 1934).
- 1823 or 1824 **Chumie.** Slowan. Alphabet, *etc.* L.191
- 1826 **Lovedale.** Bennie, J. A systematic vocabulary of the Kaffrarian language, *etc.* L.288
- 1830 **Grahamstown**, (eRini). Adams, R. P. An eulogy on Dr. Alexander Cowie and Mr. Benjamin Green, *etc.* L.420
- 1831 **Kuruman**, (Lattakoo). Moffat, R. & Edwards, R. Buka ea Pocho ea Tuto le Poluko tsa Yesu Kereste. L.456
- 1832 **Platberg.** Liopelo ka Tihelo ia Morimo, Koaribui mo Poug ia Sichuana ; Ka batu ba Kopautsoa li Lesliana Ki J. Archbell. L.500
- After 1835 **Fort Peddie**, (eNqushwa). Innwadi Yenedescho. 1840. MB.36
B. & F.B.S. 9716
- 1838 **uMlazi.** A handpress was moved from place to place on a waggon, and various native tracts were printed, according to a record in the Archives of the American Zulu Mission, Boston, U.S.A. MB.36
- 1841 **uMlazi.** Incuadi yokuqala yabafundayo. Bl.188
- 1840 **Thaba 'Nchu.** Katikisimi ia ba birioang Bawesiliana Methodisita. Bl.270a
- 1840 **Port Natal.** M.11
- 1841 **Durban**, (eThekwini). Incuadi yesibini yabafundayo. Ll.18
- 1841 **Pietermaritzburg**, (uMgungundlovu). Ivangeli e li yincucli, e li baliweyo G'Umatu. Ll.18
- 1841 **Beerseba.** Moboleli oa litaba. Bl.261
- 1843 **Mount Coke.** M.12

Scheppmannsdorf 1855

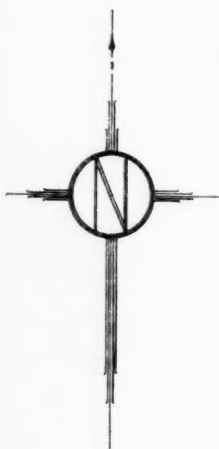
Supplement to South African Library

BECHUANALAND
PROTECTORATE

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

ATLANTIC
OCEAN

CAPE OF GOOD



Kuruman 1831

Platberg 1832

Pniel 1870.

Griquatown 1821

Bloemfontein

Faure

Craddock 1850 .
Graaff Reinet 1817.

Fort Beaufort
Philipstown
Kingwillie

Morija
Grahamstown

Cape Town 1784

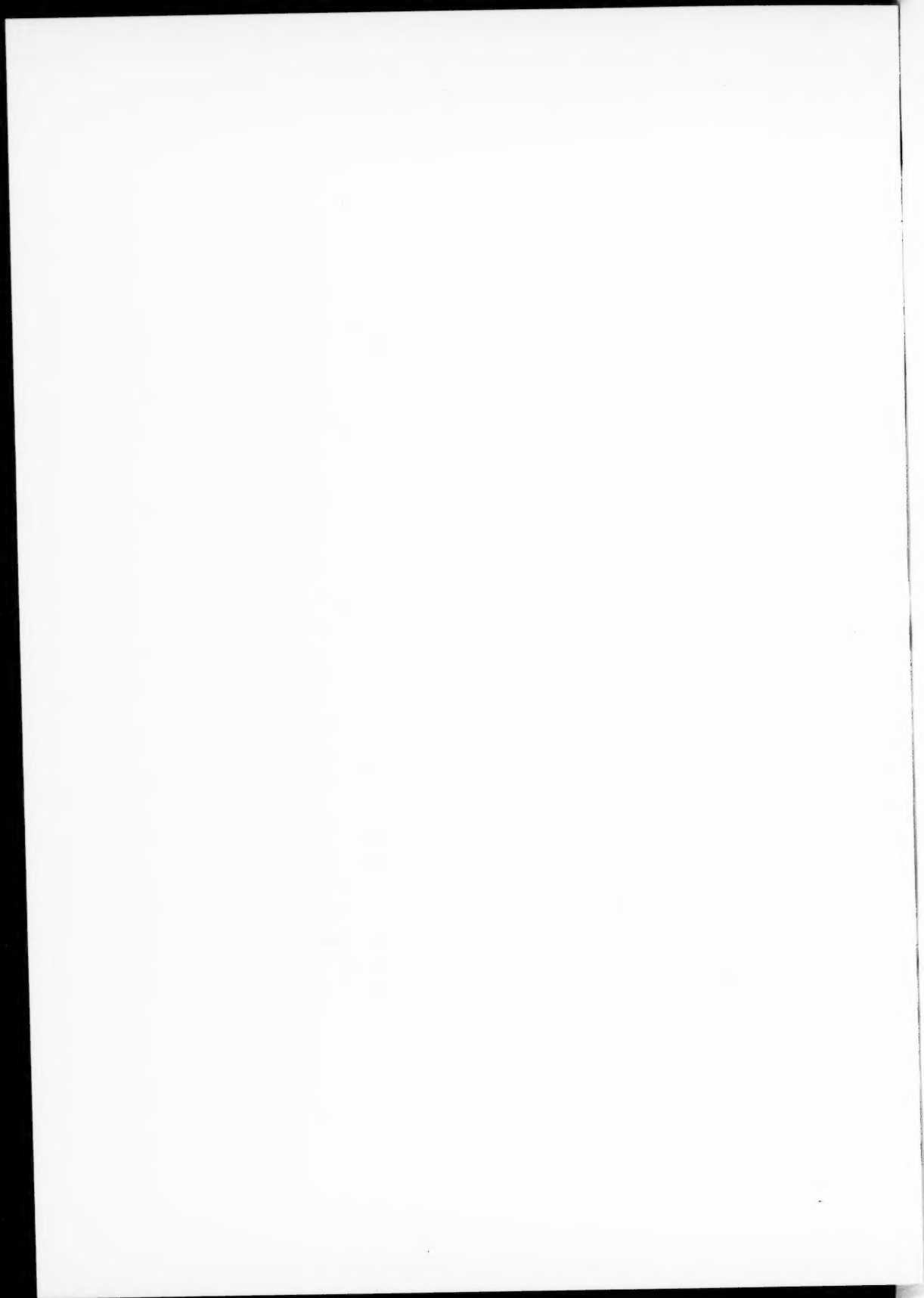
Genadendal 1861

Bethelsdorp 1805?

SCALE OF
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Libraries, 6, N°2, Oct. 1938.





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- 1844 **Newtondale**, (eMtati). Likatikisemi tsa ba reiloeng ba-Wesley Methodisti. Bl.230
- 1844 **Thaba Bosigo**. Proclamation: "Bekend-making" of Moshesh in Dutch. Bl. 259c
- 1845 **Port Elizabeth**. *Eastern Province Herald*. Me.101
- 1845 Philipton Press, **Kat River** [Fort Beaufort]. Elements of arithmetic; part 1. 31 p. 12mo. [Not seen]
- 1849 **eSidumbini**, 50 miles N. of Durban. Incwadi yamagama Okugwaba. [Not seen]
- 1849 **Kingwilliamstown**, (eQonce). Izicatshulwa zezwi lika-Tixo Bl.139
- 1850 **Bloemfontein**. *The Friend of the Sovereignty and Bloemfontein Gazette*. Ll. 18
- 1850 **Cradock**. *Cradock Dispatch*. B.8
- 1850 **East London**¹ M.12
- 1851 **Mount Coke**, (eMkangiso). Innwadi zaze-zibalweni ezingwele ezi-Kutiwe Zinnwadi Zezikronike, etc. B. & F.B.S.9729
- 1853 **Fort Beaufort**. Imiteto ka Government, Kubo bonke abantu abahleliyo emizini yamam Fengu. Bl.160
- 1855+ **eKukhanyeni**, (Bishopstowe), 5 miles from Pietermaritzburg. (See: Cox. *Life of Colenso*. Ridgway, 1888. vol. 1, p. 84).
- 1855 **Scheppmannsdorf**. Dr. Martin Lutheri di xkarri Katechismus. Bl.12
- 1857 **Potchefstroom**. Government gazette. B.12
- 1859 **uMsunduzi**, 30 miles N. of Durban. Imisebenzi yabatunywa. B. & F.B.S.9823
- 1850-1900 In the Cape almost every town of any size starts a newspaper during this period with the result that printing presses are established in most centres, e. g. Burghersdorp (1856), Colesberg (1859), Swellendam (1859), Albert & Queenstown (-1860), Uitenhage (1864), Beaufort West (1869), Paarl (1876).
- 1860 **Mori(j)a**. Mabile, A. [Tracts & pamphlets]. J.9
- 1861 **Genadendal**. Ukubandzelwe nofuka nokwuka. Kwe-NKosin omsindisi wetu uYesu Kristu. MB.37

¹ "My earliest is ca. 1865. I cannot believe 1850." [Dr. F. W. Laider.]

- 1862 **iFafa.** Stone, S. B. Incwadi Yezimvunga. ix, 20 p., 17 l. [Gubbins].
- 1862 **Keiskamma Hoek.** *North Lincoln sphinx.* [Copies in Gubbins, State Library & in that of Sir Ernest Oppenheimer].
- 1862 **Pretoria.** Government gazette. B.12
- 1865 **Springvale.** Callaway, H. B. & F.B.S.9832
- 1866 **Bethesda.** [School songs] J.9
- 1870 **Pniel.** [See footnote¹, contributed by Mr. Ross].
- 1871 **Fauresmith.** *De Vrystaat Burgher.* B.12
- 1871-75 St. John's Mission Press, **Pondoland** B. & F.B.S.9838
- 1872 **Masitise.** Bible . . . B. & F.B.S.8714
- 1873 **Gwatyu.** Incwadi Yokuqala Yokufunda Ngokwesixosa. MB.37
- 1874 **Pilgrim's Rest.** *The Gold News.* C.56
- 1877 **Alice.** Theal, G.M. Stories of the Amaxosa. MB.37
- 1877 **Highflats,** near Springvale. B. & F.B.S.9839
- 1880 **Adams.** Incwadi yabakolwayo. (Rev. Geo. Wilder). [Not seen]
- 1885 **iSandlwana.** [Prayer Book]. B. & F.B.S.9845
- 1886 **Barberton.** *Barberton Herald.* C.56
- 1886 **Johannesburg.** "Dutch journal published by a certain Du Toit" according to Chilvers' *Out of the crucible*, p. 249. C.57
- 1886 **Mariannhill.** David, P. Incwadi yemikuleko. [Not seen]
- 1887 **Johannesburg.** *Diggers' News and Witwatersrand Advertiser.* C.56

¹ Printing at the Diamond Field(s) of Griqualand West began in 1870 at *Pniel* on the Vaal River, opposite Klip Drift, later known as Barkly West. The first publication was a newspaper called *The Diamond News*, and *Vaal Advertiser*. South African Diamond Fields. No. 1, Vol. I. Saturday, October 15, 1870. (Richards, Glanville & Co. Pniel, Vaal River).

A copy of the Grahamstown-printed prospectus is preserved in our file. It begins: "DIAMOND NEWS", a weekly paper, to be published on the Fields. Edited by T. B. Glanville, of the "Journal". Mr. Glanville, who is going to the Diamond-fields as special correspondent of the "Journal", Graham's Town, intends to publish on the Fields themselves a weekly paper, to be called the "Diamond News", the first number of which will appear on or about the 1st of October . . ."

With the discovery of rich mines about 25 miles away from the Vaal, the paper was transferred to Dorsfontein, in touch with the mines at Dutoitspan—Bultfontein (Beaconsfield), Colesberg Kopje—New Rush (Kimberley), in September, 1871. (*Vide* Meurant, & R. W. Murray, *sen.*: South African reminiscences, etc. C.T.: Juta, 1894, p. 144-49.)

- 1888 **iNdwe.** Izilesesho ezimiselwe ukuleseshwa
e-kerikeni, etc. St. Peter's-on-iNdwe. B. & F.B.S.9750
- 1888 **Inhambane,** (P.E.A.). B. & F.B.S.9323
- 1880-1900 Newspapers and printing presses are established in most towns
of any importance in the Transvaal and Free State during
this period, e. g. Pietersburg (1888), Klerksdorp (1889),
Nylstroom (1895).
- 1892 **Salisbury.** *Rhodesian Herald.*
- 1895 **Bulawayo.** *Bulawayo Chronicle.*

After this date there are printing presses in almost every town and
dorp, and many country places publish local newspapers, especially if
they are some distance from a large centre.

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members 17.6s.

The Star of 6. Aug. 1938 reprinted from the *Manchester Guardian* Mr. Stanley Jast's
review of this volume of 719 pages.

Moderne Volksbiblioteekstelsels. Mnr. Ian Murray van die Suid-Afrikaanse Openbare
Biblioteek het drie waardevolle artikels met die bo-staande titel bygedra tot *Die Huis-
genoot* van 5, 12 en 19 Augustus.

Ontario Library Review. With vol. 22, no. 2, May 1938, this periodical changed its name
to *The Ontario Library Review and Canadian Periodical Index*. "The index will be pub-
lished quarterly . . . It will be cumulated annually & issued under separate cover as
an off-print of the *Review*. There will have to be a charge made for the cumulation."

Photo-lettering machine . . . "for setting-up display headlines & small amounts of text
which are now laboriously hand-lettered or composed from type by hand . . ." is de-
scribed in *Scientific American*, vol. 158, no. 4 : 230, Apl. 1938.

Printed Publications Act, No. 5, 1938, S.R. The Legislature of Southern Rhodesia has
passed an "Act to consolidate & amend the law relating to the registration of newspapers,
the printing and publication of books & the preservation of printed works published
in the Colony". It repeals Act 8, 1859; 29, 1884; & Ordinance 6, 1918.

Society of Clerks at-the-Table in Empire Parliaments. *Journal* contains useful notes
and reviews of recent books.

South African Broadcasting Corporation. *Library of South African Music.* To encourage
and foster the efforts of South African composers and build up a representative collec-
tion of South African music, the South African Broadcasting Corporation has decided
to inaugurate, at its Durban studio, a library of South African music.

Although the library will be in Durban, the works will be available for performance
from the other studios of the corporation. An audition committee will be appointed to
hear and report on all works submitted. It is hoped that competitions will be organised
to stimulate interest in the building up of the library, which is for all types of music.

A number of works have already been selected to form the nucleus of the library and it
is hoped that before the end of the year it will have a representative and comprehensive
collection of South African works. (*The Star*, 4. 6. 38)

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

- Australian Institute of Librarians.** Constitution, adopted 21st Aug. 1937. Sydney, 1938. The General Secretary, Mr. John W. Metcalfe, B.A., F.L.A., writes :—
 "We are all very interested here in the Report of your Interdepartmental Committee on libraries. I am Secretary & a member of a similar committee set up by the Minister of Education in New South Wales, and just engaged in drafting its report. The extent to which your committee has drawn similar conclusions to ours, from apparently similar local conditions, is remarkable. Whole passages only need the word 'Australia' substituted for the word 'Union' to be perfectly applicable. May I offer congratulations on the continued high standard of your journal."
- Canterbury Public Library.** *Journal*. Christchurch, N. Z. vol. 3, nos. 4-6, March to June, 1938.
- Commonwealth National Library, Canberra.** Annual catalogue of Australian publications. No. 2, 1937; comp. under the direction of Kenneth Binns. 1938. 2.0s.
- Imperial Institute.** [News sheets]. African progress in Kenya. New Australian films for the Empire Film Library. New statue of David Livingstone: addition to the Empire Builders' Collection. Two of the nation's mineral and plant allies (tungsten & derris root).
- National Central Library.** 22nd Annual report of the Executive Committee, 1937-38. London, 1938.
- Native Teachers' Journal.** Pietermaritzburg: Education Department. Vol. 17, nos. 3-4, April, July 1938. The Librarian, Mr. F. A. Kunene contributes the feature "Our library table" to the April number.
- Readers' Companion.** Bulletin of the Carnegie Non-European Library, Transvaal. No. 2, July 1938.
- Wellington, N.Z.** *Public Libraries*. Annual report, 1st April, 1937—31st March, 1938.

APPOINTMENTS, RETIREMENTS, ETC.

MARRIAGES

- DE JONG**—Mrs. A. de Jong, of Nigel Public Library, was married to Mr. Eaves on 28th May last.
- PALCA**—Miss Lily Palca, formerly of the Johannesburg Public Library, was married to Mr. Alfred Dantowitz on 24th December last.

OBITUARY

- MORRISON**—We regret to record the death of Major W. R. Morrison on 19th May. Since the death of Dr. Gubbins, "W.R.M." had been Director of the Gubbins Africana Museum.
 Mr. Morrison had an enviable knowledge of Africana, & we hope to print in a future issue of *S.A.L.* a list of his most important contributions to the subject.
- ROSE**—By the sad death from pneumonia of Mr. Fred. Rose on 15th August at the age of 46 we have lost another friend and Africana specialist. He was handling for the Witwatersrand University Press the South African sales of Burchell's *Bachapans*.
 To their widows we extend our deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

Ons wil graag die aandag van lede vestig op die "Kennisgewing aan Bydraers" wat elke drie maande onder die Advertisensies verskyn. Veral Afrikaanse bydrae word verlang. The attention of members is again directed to the "Notice to Contributors" appearing quarterly among the Advertisements. Contributions in Afrikaans are specially desired.

MECHANIZATION OF BOOKBINDING

MODERN METHODS

*Described**by*F.C. GOULD¹*(General Manager, Messrs. Nevett, Ltd.)*

That section of the trade known as "Publisher's Binding", has undoubtedly undergone vast changes in the last ten years, and in order to appreciate their value or otherwise, we must first take a glimpse of the methods adopted from about 1870. I want to try and prove that mechanization has developed two important factors—firstly, improved quality, particularly with cheaper forms of books, and, secondly, its influence on prices and industry, introducing more employment and better wages. I do not suggest that books bound by mechanical means, covered in bookcloth, have any connection or relation with those of our old craftsmen who bound "in boards" and covered in leather; but books bound in a similar style I claim are bound better now than they used to be before the introduction of many of the automatic or semi-automatic machines. Those of us who in recent years have had the experience of pulling books when a "drawn-on binding" has been required, know only too well the great strength with which they are held together.

Craft to Industry

Bookbinding as a craft can be claimed to be one of the oldest in the world, and for centuries its basic principles have changed but little. In fact, its mechanical prototype is still based on the same foundation principles, and with such an age-long craft how sudden has the change been. Our fathers saw the very beginning of the change, and our grandfathers never dreamt of it, and we in the midst of this great industrial revolution can see no finality to it. When the early printer, and prior to him the calligrapher, set about to form the basis of a book, he formed his leaves in folio—that is, four pages, and insetted his folios to the desired thickness of section. With the demand for smaller books, he then folded into quarto and again in octave.

¹ Reprinted from *The British & Colonial Printer*, 122, n. s. no. 482: 36-40, 13. Jan., 1938, by courtesy of The Editor.

At first he did not page his books, but only signed his sections ; but when he did page his books he must have got into a muddle with his pagination as is seen so frequently in the pagination errors of early printed books. The finest comparison with present-day imposition can undoubtedly be illustrated by reference to the publication of "Book Impositions", recently issued by the Master Bookbinders' Association. In this book there are no less than thirty-nine layouts, each having special use for both printer and binder.

Folding

The first operation in binding is folding, the details and ramifications of which is a subject almost inexhaustible. It is the common practice to-day for a publisher or printer to get into contact with the binder, and ask what imposition he requires for such and such a job. Before this question can be answered, the binder should know size of book, number of pages, length of run, and number of copies he is expected to bind at a time, together with the class and weight of paper. With this information the binder is able to suggest the most suitable imposition. It may be eight, sixteen, thirty-two, or sixty-four pages, but these may be imposed for square or long imposition—for example, thirty-two pages may be imposed to fold as square thirty-two pages or two-sixteen pages insetted to sew as thirty-two pages, and while it may cost no more in the composing room to impose either way for thirty-two page section, it will result in serious loss to the binder, and increase the cost of production if square thirty-two-page sections are printed when two insetted long sixteen's were required or vice versa.

Machinery Developments

The earliest folding machines were demonstrated at the world exhibition in London in 1851, but did not find great popularity until 1870—80. These machines were fed by hand, the output being between five hundred and a thousand sections per hour. About 1904 buckle and plate folding was introduced ; on this type of machine there is no knife to chop the sheets into the rollers, the fold is produced by the sheets entering a slotted plate up to the stops, and in consequence of the travel of the sheets being checked, a buckle is formed which in turn is gathered by a pair of rollers which presses the buckle close, to make a clean fold. The designs of paper-folding machines have made rapid progress during the last fifteen years, and machines are now available to give almost any combination of folds and will deliver from one to eight—sixteen-page sections of a book, in one operation, at a speed of three thousand to three thousand five hundred sheets per hour, and the size of the sheet may be up to forty-six by seventy inches. One type of machine taking a sheet forty-six by seventy inches folds, slits and delivers eight—sixteen-page sections at the rate of twenty-four thousand to twenty-eight

sections per hour. It is used in the production of exceptionally long runs, such as series work and cheap fiction.

Before folding machines were so extensively used it was common practice for sheets to arrive in the bindery in a very indifferent condition, the chief offences being badly backed up and the edges of the sheets broken ; this did not disturb the hand folder very much as she was trained to fold to print, to equalize margins and endeavour to make indifferent printing presentable. Not being concerned with lay edges the broken edges caused by bad knocking up did not worry her. The folding machine, once set, folds each sheet identically and if the printing is not regular, mechanical folding only emphasizes the trouble ; when edges are broken the folding machine cannot get good lays. This in turn has compelled those responsible for the earlier stages to be more accurate, knock up properly and deliver the sheets in perfect condition.

Given the correct imposition for a given job, printed well, and with sound edges, every sheet will be folded identically, the pages of print will fall correctly upon each other and good work will result.

Folding machines have no doubt brought about co-operation between departments, better and more accurate printing, greater care in knocking up and packing, and here commences, through mechanization, the better book.

Guarded Methods the Best

Before proceeding, consideration must be given to plates, maps, etc., if any occur in the book. The methods employed are tipping in along the back edge with paste, hook guarded or guarded with paper or linen. The guarded methods are undoubtedly the best in principle as they permit the plates to be sewn in and, therefore, are more securely held ; but owing to the costly procedure when hand labour is resorted to, this can only be followed with work that will stand the cost. Tipping in of plates was and is the usual style adopted for cheaper books, but this can readily be seen to be a doubtful procedure, and if not done well and properly pasted, or with deterioration of the adhesive, the plates soon become detached. The pasting machine can do hook guarding at the same speed as pasting or tipping, thereby entailing no additional cost.

Book planners or designers should consider this aspect and see that all plates should be so arranged that they be hooked round the letterpress, or that the position of the plates should be so designed to enable them to be joined together with bank paper or linen on a bracket stripping machine, folded into a fourpage, inset or outset, and sewn in. The speed of these machines is governed by the length of the sheet and upward of two thousand and three thousand plates per hour, hook guarded, may be dealt with.

Gathering

The process of gathering is one where hand methods prevail to a greater extent than any other process in the trade. Skilled girls can perform this work with such rapidity, and the latest machines, whilst being wonderful, are all so intricate that they become expensive to purchase and costly to operate, except perhaps with very long runs of magazine or edition work.

Hand gathering is performed by laying down along a bench a pile of each signature or section in proper sequence, and by walking along the bench and taking one section from each pile a book is gathered.

The first introduction of mechanizing this operation was probably the revolving table. Here the sections were arranged in correct order and the girls sat around the edge, as the table revolved, each took up a signature and in turn gathered the books. A method in use at Paris last year was of the escalator type, the sections being arranged in order upon each step. The escalator is set in motion and as each step is presented carrying a different signature the girls gather. A feature is the small floor space occupied. Some thirty-five years ago the first gathering machine was introduced by J. B. Mercer, which has been improved upon until to-day there is a fully automatic machine save for loading the boxes. The boxes are set to accommodate the overall size of the signature, and a micrometer adjustment is provided to set the thickness of the signature, thus if a sheet is missed or an extra sheet is pulled down by the grippers the machine automatically stops. The boxes being filled and the machine set in motion, the bottom section from each pile is sucked down and placed in a position slightly protruding from the rest. This is followed by an arm taking the section and placing it on to a conveyor, which in turn carries the sheet to the next box, when the next signature is placed on top. This is repeated throughout the machine until a complete book is gathered and deposited on to a travelling band. The machine is capable of the enormous output of gathering seventy to ninety sections per minute, and will handle stock from single sheets to thick sections.

Sewing

About sixty years ago, David Smythe founded the Smythe Manufacturing Company and toured England and the Continent, installing booksewing machines. Improvements have gradually been made, and there are now in common use machines sewing at the rate of ninety sections per minute. There are many types of sewing machines on the market, each having their special use. The choice of sewing is very varied according to the style of binding, which may be without tapes, known as french, over tapes, through tapes, over cords, etc. Whatever the craftsman may have to say about hand-

sewing, there is much to be said for the machine, and may be summarized as even tension and regular distribution of thread. Each stitch is separate and distinct from the other so that, should a break occur during the life of the book, it will not fall to pieces, it being still held by the remaining stitches, a feature that is not always overcome with all along hand sewing.

The value of tapes is very much over-rated. If tapes ever gave additional strength to a book, it was whilst the book was in the sewn condition only, for the subsequent operations broke them across the back, which was ultimately covered up by the lining. America has undoubtedly shown us the way in this respect with the introduction of the triple lining machine. Rather than sewing on tapes, breaking them and covering them up, the method extensively employed now is to sew without tapes, forward, and then introduce the strength by lining after backing, and triple lining where necessary. We in this country are apparently rather dubious about changing our practice, and are, therefore, till sewing on tapes to thousands of books that I feel would be improved if french sewing and triple lining were adopted.

Nipping, Bumping, or Smashing

The sewn books next proceed to the nipping, bumping or smashing machine. Although nipping is a return to the early principles, books are generally nipped after sewing and not as their forerunner before sewing. The craftsman would knock down before sewing with a beating hammer, and use the swell caused by sewing as the medium to form his round and joints that the boards which were later to be attached might be suitably accommodated, but this swelling would only impede mechanized workers, and it becomes imperative to consider this point in connection with impositions. To enable the subsequent operations to be dealt with efficiently, the books must go forward with equal thickness at the back as at the fore-edge. This may sound poor in principle to the craftsman, but, nevertheless, it is sound in practice. Whereas the craftsman beat his section with a hammer before sewing, and relied on the swell caused by this operation to give him the round he required, to-day, nipping is done after sewing. This produces in some measure loose sewing which is finally taken up again when rounding and backing. A book measuring, say, one inch and a quarter across the back after sewing, is reduced to one inch after nipping, the stitches *must* be loose, but if properly constructed from the beginning they are only sufficiently loose as to be brought taut again when subsequent rounding takes place. The first machine that took the place of the beating hammer was the rolling machine, which was introduced about the year 1835. This machine was far away in principle from beating. The nipping machine, which found its way into the industry around 1880, brought back the same principle as the

craftsman applied, and to-day there are nippers capable of inflicting a pressure of two hundred and fifty tons in one blow. Is there any one who would like to return to the laborious use of the fourteen-pound hammer when books can be consolidated so much more efficiently under the cheeks of a bumping machine?

Cutting and Glueing-Up

For book cutting attention must be turned to the triple knife machines. There are many designs on the market, some more suitable for one class of work than the other, but all machines producing the one important feature—square books. Machines of the Seybold and Krause type, where the head and tail knives are set at right angles to the fore-edge knife, it is impossible to have other than right angles at the head fore-edge and tail fore-edge corners. Unlike the guillotine, where books have to be fed to the back gauge three times for cutting, the risk of unsquare books is great, the human element will prevail. With the three-knife machine this risk is eliminated, and one can feel safe that all books are cut identically, thereby easing the difficulties of the remaining operations. Machines are fitted with continuous feeding and automatic ejecting at a speed of fifteen piles per minute.

The cut books are fed into a glueing-up machine. Up to a few years ago no bookbinder viewing the importance of this operation would have thought it possible for it to be performed by mechanical means. First glueing-up is all important, and, if not executed properly with flexible glue and well rubbed in between the sections, the binding will suffer no matter what care is taken with the forwarding. The books are fed on to a travelling band, backs down, and carried to a trough containing the glue. They then pass over a roller which revolves in the adhesive and a layer of glue is applied to the backs of the books. The books are then carried forward where they are met with a hard stubby brush which scrapes the glue into the crevices and between the sections with such perfection that the most exacting critic should be satisfied. The quality of the work performed by these machines is far better than most work done by hand.

Edge colouring and sprinkling is performed with the aid of an air spray gun.

Rounding and Backing

The first attempt to mechanize these operations was perhaps the introduction of two units, a rounding machine and a backing machine of the Starr principle, about 1850. The rounded books were placed and held firmly in the jaws of the backer, which was suitably adjusted according to the thickness of the book, and the joints were made first with the hammer and

completed with a roller. About fifty years ago the power rounding and backing machine was invented, and this machine was regarded as a masterpiece. Some five or six years ago saw the introduction of the semi-automatic rounding and backing machine designed on the continuous feeding principle. One type has fore-edge feed as distinct from the more familiar back feed, and if any preceding operation has been performed in a slipshod fashion this machine is sure to find it out. For instance, if the books are not all the same width, then, because of the books being fed to the fore-edge, some would protrude more from the jaws than others with obvious results. This machine is operated by feeding the books in an upright manner into a trough, fore-edge down. The books are then automatically taken to the rolling device and on to the jaws over which the wiper operates in a similar manner to the roller of the Starr backer. This machine is capable of rounding and backing upwards to forty books per minute, and the quality is such that might be the envy of the old craftsman.

Triple Lining Machine

Lining up the backs for cased books is one of those operations that for over a generation has been performed by hand piece-work, the first lining of mull usually being attached with the first glueing, which, like the tapes, often became broken when rounding and backing. The method now commonly employed is to first glue, round and back and line up by machine after backing. This machine is capable of lining up with two mulls and one of crepe brown paper, each being properly rubbed down before the next one is applied. The books are fed into a travelling conveyor, backs down, and carried to the first glueing station, where a layer of glue is evenly applied, then on to the first mull station, the mull cut from a spool the desired width and carried to the back of the book, placed in position and rubbed down. This operation is repeated at the second mull station, following on to the third lining, which consists of crepe brown paper, which in turn is well rubbed down by pneumatic rollers revolving in water. The water and pressure cause the paper to stretch, and as the lining dries it contracts and holds firmly to the book.

Should headbands be required, they are automatically fed from a spool, glued into position head and tail on to the paper lining, and attached to the back in one operation.

The chain conveyor used for carrying the books, holds thirty-three volumes at a time, and each book is being treated by one of the operations at the same time, allowing, therefore, for the enormous output of forty books per minute.

The glue is electrically heated and thermostatically controlled, ensuring even and correct temperature throughout. The advantages of triple lining over tapes must be apparent. The swell of the book is even throughout, having no tapes to bind at intervals along the back, and in consequence the joint formed in backing is even and not irregular, as in the case when tapes are used. There is no buckling of the sheets at the back and the book opens freer and flatter. The extra mull lining gives greater strength than tapes; this strength is all the way down the length on the back and joint, and being applied after backing, it has not been strained or stretched.

Case-making Machine Introduced

Some forty years ago saw the introduction of the first case-making machine, introduced by the Smythe Manufacturing Company and Messrs. Sheridan. These machines were a success from the beginning, superseding hand labour from every angle. Given square boards and square cloth, the last case, say, of a ten thousand run, is exact in all respects to the first and "Oh! what a boon to the blocker!" With the Smythe case-making machine the cloth is fed over a cloth cylinder, which on revolving brings the cloth into contact with a glueing cylinder, applying an even distribution of glue on to the surface. Then the cloth is carried to a platform where a pair of boards and the paper hollow are mechanically placed in position, the edges are turned in and the case pressed and ejected on to the platform. About twelve years ago they developed and introduced an automatic cloth feeding device which ensured equal accuracy and higher output.

The Sheridan case-making machines are real mass-production units, and are fed from rolls of cloth that have been slit to the required length, making perfect cases at a speed of over two thousand per hour, and it is claimed that they are suitable for runs of not less than two thousand cases. The advantages of these machines over hand labour may be summarized as even distribution of glue and not pounced in, consequently the surface of the cloth is not destroyed, the sheen or grain is retained, and, above all, every case is the same size, rendering back lettering and frames on the side to be blocked central by fast-running power presses and with sure knowledge that each case will fit any one of the mechanically produced books of a given job.

Blocking

The cases now proceed to be lettered or decorated before casing-in, commonly called blocking. The first breakaway from the hand tooling of our predecessors would appear to be the stamping of the arms on the sides of books. This apparently was done with a block about an inch thick, made warm and laid on the side of the book and dropped into the laying press,

which was then screwed up and left for a few seconds. One can imagine burnt fingers and strong language following, and even the most ardent opponent of mechanization will admit that the first development of what was then called the arming press, was an advantage. The Imperial press claims to be the first in the field. There was a heater box, and knuckle joint leverage was used to get the pressure. The blocks still retained their thickness and were screwed directly on to the dovetail in the heater box. The hand press began to be adapted to power about 1860, and one in particular that found favour was the Gough Press. The pillar presses, of which the Beatrice is well known, and of the platen type, the Colt soon followed, and, although power presses were hand fed, they held sway until quite recently.

The automatic blockers are now fast superseding all others for long runs. These machines in principle remain the same—that is, the pillar or platen type, and are capable of a pressure upwards of one hundred and fifty tons, executing blind, ink, foil or gold blocking, the speed naturally varying with the class of work, and from two thousand to four thousand cases can be dealt with in one hour.

Gold and foil ribbon feed is now being extensively used ; they are automatically fed, giving results as solid and as brilliant as hand laying-on. This has been made possible since the gold has been applied to a ribbon of the cellophane variety which in turn imparts a burnish to the gold.

It almost seems a tragedy that now the development in blocking has gone as far and become so cheap that the publishers should spend so much money on book jackets and so little on the book cover. Jackets soon get dirty and torn and often reveal nothing but a poverty-stricken cover underneath. A good cover, suitably decorated, and a transparent jacket answer all the claims of the present-day dust-cover and leave something rich and individual for permanent use.

Casing-in and Pressing

Both the books and cases are now ready for the final operation of casing-in and pressing. About thirty-five years ago saw the introduction of the casing-in machine and what a stir it caused. It is perhaps fair to state that it was not accepted with acclamation as the number of books that found their way to the repair department was enormous. It soon became evident that it was not the machine that was at fault, but the binders themselves, and it became apparent that any type of paper, usually the commonest with the grain running at all angles, was used for endpaper, causing stretch to take place, cockling and broken joints. The remedy was obvious, better ends and with the grain running as the body of the book, from head to tail. So with the last operation as with the first, mechanization has compelled all

concerned in the production of books to remedy defects in order to obtain the desired results with the maximum output, hence the better book.

These early machines were capable of an output of twelve to fifteen per minute, and still find favour where heavy books are dealt with. Recent developments have brought about the fast running semi-automatic casing-in machines, and providing all preceding operations have been carried out on machines of equal efficiency, very little fitting is required by the operator, and a speed of twenty-five to thirty books per minute is claimed.

The pressing of the books is carried out in principle similar to the earlier method, with this difference, that instead of building up the books between boards directly in the press and there allowing them to dry, necessitating thereby rows of presses, they are built up in skeleton or frame of a press called a container, wheeled into the press, pressure applied and the container wheeled away until the books are required. Containers and one press only are required.

Influence on Trade and Prices

With the development of so much mechanization, one may wonder what influence it has had on the trade. Fortunately, the book reading public has grown with equal strides, and authorities agree that there are more people employed in the industry to-day than ever before. Notwithstanding that materials used have increased between one hundred and one hundred and fifty per cent. on pre-war prices, and labour has advanced approximately one hundred and fifty per cent., the selling price of binding is perhaps nearer to pre-war level than any other section of the industry, and books are being sold to-day that have passed through these multiple operations at a price that would only have allowed for a paper cover a few years ago.

Training of further Operators

It is possible for a youth to be apprenticed in a modern bindery and at the end of his apprenticeship not to have touched a glue brush. This appears to be wrong : experience shows that trained craftsmen make the best operators on the machine. For this reason, a man who has been trained to, say, back a book with the hammer and knows exactly what is necessary for any particular book, knows when his machine is properly adjusted and giving the desired results. The same applies to all other processes. This is where the value of the technical schools that are teaching craft principles, and thereby laying a solid foundation for industry, comes in.

I, therefore, suggest in conclusion that all apprentices should be trained in the rudiments of the craft, coupled with the theory of mechanics, and not rely wholly on the workshops for their early training.

The large number of operations necessary for binding a book make mechanization of the industry very involved, and this analysis can scarcely touch the fringe of the subject. The development during the last half century is staggering. Speed and automatic feed go hand in hand and, without question, a progressively higher quality of technique. The effect on our social life has been very marked, and we may well pause to ask—Where is it leading us?

THE CENSORSHIP PROBLEM

Some uncertainty surrounds the Government's intentions in the matter of censorship. There was indignation tempered by amusement when the Board of Censors issued, a few months ago, a list of books it intended to ban, for literary classics and normal reading matter were prohibited equally with some publications having an undeniable pornographic flavour. The explanations issued from official quarters in response to protests were confused and even contradictory. Mr. Stuttaford repudiated any intention of banning classical works or political publications unless they were definitely subversive of law, order and good government. We have had no explanation of this discrepancy between the Board and the Minister, and attention has turned to the anomaly that, while the Customs officials could impound such literature at the ports, no legal action could be taken against booksellers who already had supplies—save for prosecutions which could be instituted by the police on grounds of obscenity. Three weeks ago, however, the Secretary for the Interior stated that legislation was being drafted and would shortly be introduced in Parliament to regularise the banning of books. It would aim, he explained, at making the Minister's ban legally enforceable so that any book he decided was unfit to enter the country would, if exhibited or sold, render the shopkeeper liable to prosecution. A few days ago the Minister gave an ambiguous denial to a Cape newspaper. "No new legislation is contemplated during the coming session of Parliament to deal with the censorship of books," he said, adding, however, "at a later stage it is probable that existing legislation will be amended to bring the procedure for the censorship of literature into line with the practice now followed in film censorship." The denial seems, in fact, to be an affirmation. Customs officials are authorised to seize all literature which is "indecent, obscene or regarded on any ground as objectionable," and the department is guided by reference to the Board of Censors and Colonel Trew, who was recently given the considerable responsibility of making an investigation into undesirable literature. There is nowhere any support either for the importation of pornographic literature or pictorial or written matter, particularly for natives, of a dangerously subversive kind, but there are legitimate objections to vesting wide powers of prohibition in a Minister or in public servants who cannot be required to justify themselves and their acts in the courts. Mr. Stuttaford himself aroused some dubiety in the minds of his best friends by consenting to ban "Turning Wheels" "because of public outcry", while at the same time expressing the view that it contained little that was exceptionable. The existing law both defines and punishes obscenity and is fully capable of being enforced by the police and the courts. If, however, it can be demonstrated that the law needs strengthening, we believe public opinion will consent—provided there is no unreasonable and unjustifiable interference with the normal democratic liberties of publication, speech and reading. *But the final decision as to what is pornographic, immoral or subversive should, we feel, be a responsibility of the courts.* Any delegation of the functions of the judiciary to public servants is at all times objectionable, and particularly at the present time, when the bureaucracy exercises supreme power in the totalitarian States, and even in the democracies, there is, as Lord Hewart and others have frequently and vigorously reminded us, a tendency to refer issues between the executive and the citizens to departmental tribunals.

(With acknowledgements to *The Star*, 20. 7. 38. The italics are ours.)

LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS

Boshof. Public Library. The committee of the Boshof Public Library have received a donation of £10 from the De Beers Company, Kimberley, an annual contribution of £10 from the Boshof Town Council, and £1 1s. and £2 2s. from the Women's Agricultural Union, and the Kultuurvereniging respectively. The object of the committee is to grant free use of the library if sufficient funds are raised for the purchase of books.

(*The Friend*, Bloemfontein, 29. 8. 38).

South African Library for the Blind. Grahamstown. 14th Annual report, 1937. The following from "An exiles return" is quoted on the title-page:—"Probably no one who has not loved books and then lost them, can realise what it means to us to recover through Braille the kingdom from which were we exiled..." C. M. James.

Vereeniging. Public Library. Mr. Stirling addressed the Annual General Meeting, held on 8th August, 1938. The State Librarian said that it always gave him a feeling of pleasure to come to Vereeniging because the town and the library were always full of life. The library was informal and pleasant, and was well supported by the children, which is a promising sign. You are fortunate in having such a well-read and efficient librarian as Mrs. van der Westhuizen in Vereeniging. It was regrettable to note that in the Secretary's report, the Vereeniging municipal grant was only £270 for a population of about 5,000 people. There are few libraries in South Africa that pay rent at all, and considering that you have to pay your own rent, your library is shockingly supported by the Municipality.

Mr. Stirling then made an interesting review of the very early libraries. The main object, he said, of the town library is to circulate its books into the homes of the readers. The modern library's ideal is to find a reader for every book and a book for every reader, a book left lying on the library shelf is a reproach. The library should be the centre of the intellectual life of the community and especially in a small town, it should act as the publicity bureau of the town. The business man, the mechanic, the professional man, should all turn to the library for books to read in connection with their work, for information and for the solution to all their problems. How many libraries send people away disappointed because they cannot supply what they want, and the only enquiries the librarian receives now-a-days are for the latest sensational novel.

The fact remains that the subscription system keeps the bulk of the public out of the libraries. If you have a free library people will use it. The indisputable fact remains a free library is the only one that induces people to read books. Only 4% of the people in South Africa use the libraries. The public appreciates anything if it is worthy of appreciation. The few South African libraries which have become free bear testimony to the enormously increased public appreciation of them. It is the duty of the authorities to encourage the use of books. As long as the library will be meagrely supported by the municipalities, South Africa cannot know the meaning of national culture. To be merely national is to be mediocre, we must be universal. We can never have any claim to culture until we use our libraries.

(*The Vereeniging News*, 12. 8. 1938)

SCHOOL & CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

A Children's Library in Venice. From an illustrated article published in the Educational Supplement of the review: *Scuola Italiana Moderna*, the International Bureau of Education has issued a 2-page mimeographed abstract. Copies may be obtained from Dr. E. G. Malherbe, Secretary to the S.A. Committee, Union Buildings, Pretoria.

Four to Fourteen: a catalogue of books for children; selected by Kathleen Lines (formerly of the Toronto Public Libraries) is announced for immediate publication by the National Book Council, 3, Henrietta St., London, W.C. 2.

Reading in Modern Schools: an organ for the exchange of experiences between teachers & the dissemination of information on books, reading, drama & films in central, senior, junior & infant schools; ed. & published by Miss Paule de Lépervanche. London: British Periodicals, Ltd., 19, Cursitor St., E.C. 4. 1938+. 3 nos. per annum 5.0s. Single 2.0s., This first Summer Term number contains 2 supplements: 1. Drama; 2. Films, in modern schools.

MOTION PICTURES ADAPTED FROM BOOKS

Compiled by

GLADYS OPPENHEIM

from lists supplied by

The Motion Picture Producers & Distributors of America, Inc.
 (Of interest to Librarians, who wish to be prepared in advance
 for unusual demands stimulated by films)
 All recently completed, or still in production.

Amazing Dr. Clitterhouse. From the play by Barre Lyndon. Dir. : Anatol Litvak. Cast : Edward G. Robinson, Claire Trevor. (Warner Bros.)

Boy meets Girl. From the play by S. & B. Spewack. Dir. : Lloyd Bacon. Cast : James Cagney, Pat O'Brien, Marie Wilson. (Warner Bros.)

Drums, the novel by A. E. W. Mason, is being filmed by Alexander Korda for United Artists. It features Sabu, Raymond Massey & Valerie Hobson.

Goodbye, Mr. Chips by James Hilton is planned as Robert Donat's next starring vehicle. (M.G.M.)

Gunga Din. Based on the poem by Kipling, screenplay by Ben Hecht & Charles McArthur. Dir. : Geo. Stevens. Cast : Cary Grant, Douglas Fairbanks Jr., Victor McLaglen, Joan Fontaine. (R.K.O. Radio)

Idiot's Delight. From the play by Robert E. Sherwood. (M.G.M.)

If I were King. J.H. McCarthy's novel on the life of Villon, will be produced by Paramount, starring Ronald Colman.

Knights of the Round Table. Based on legends of King Arthur. (Paramount)

Panama Canal is to be produced by Warner Bros.

Private Lives. From the play by Noel Coward, will be produced by M.G.M. under the title of "The Devil with love".

Pygmalion, by G. B. Shaw, is being produced in England, with Leslie Howard starring & also co-directing with Anthony Asquith.

Romance of the Limberlost. From the novel by Gene Stratton Porter. Dir. : William Nigh. Cast : Jean Parker, Eric Linden. (Monogram)

Saint in New York. From the novel by Leslie Charteris. Dir. : Ben Holmes. Cast : Louis Hayward, Mary Alpher. (R.K.O. Radio)

Sisters, The. From the novel by Myron Brinig. Dir. : Anatole Litvak. Cast : Bette Davis, Errol Flynn. (Warner Bros.)

Stanley & Livingstone. Soon to go into production at 20th Century-Fox. Otto Brewer & Mrs. Martin Johnson made preliminary research films in Africa. Traced route taken by Stanley in search of Dr. Livingstone.

Star Wagon, the play by Maxwell Anderson, has been purchased by David Selznick.

Suez is to be produced by D. Zanuck at 20th Century-Fox. The script, from historical records, has been written by P. Dunne & J. Josephson.

Three Comrades. From the novel by Remarque. Dir. : Frank Borzage. Cast : Robert Taylor, Robert Young, Franchot Tone. (M.G.M.)

Valley of the Giants. From the novel by Peter B. Kyne. (Warner Bros.)

You can't take it with you. From the play by Kaufman and Hart. Dir : Frank Capra. Cast : Jean Arthur, James Stewart, Lionel Barrymore, Edward Arnold, Ann Miller. (Columbia)

CURIOSITIES OF CATALOGUING AND INDEXING ¹

In the free library of a neighbouring town "The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes" is to be found amongst the biographies.

Even "The Times" Book Club can be caught napping! I was credibly informed that on the shelves devoted to animals there was found "Some Old Sea Dogs".

In the days of my youth I sat at the feet of Mark Twain, Artemus Ward, Bret Harte, and other American humorists. One of them told the story of a village librarian who was preparing a new catalogue. He came across a copy of the Bible. He had never seen it before nor heard of it. He catalogued it "The Bible, by God".

Another example of the cataloguing of the Bible—"The Bible, by Anonymous". This is in the library of an important hill station in India.

At another station in India the library catalogue of the club contained the entry under "Medical" of "Navel Operations"—the actual work being "Naval Operations".

Here is another instance to add to your index curiosities. It refers to the old hymn, Oh, Lord, what boots it to repine.

Tho' all around seems dark and drear.

This appears in the index of a reference book as "Oh, Lord, what boots".

"Observer's" notes on the unconscious humour of the index of encyclopaedias are refreshing. May I add two more :—

Mill, John Stuart, on Political Economy.

Mill, on the Floss, George Eliot.

The other was, of all places, found in a legal text book in my student days. At this distant date I cannot recall the exact source, but I think it was in Dowell's Income Tax Laws :—Parent—see "incapacitated person".

The "Mill on the Floss" story is familiar, but it is not so well known that the culprit was a Dublin publisher called Rooney, who was also responsible for a catalogue item, "Seven Lumps of Stones of Venice (J. Ruskin)".

To your set of indexing oddities may I add one which appeared in the British Museum catalogue a few years ago (and may still)? An entry under the name of "Mill (John Stuart)" runs: "See Anti-Christ". It sheds a lurid light on methods of mid-Victorian controversy.

As regards your list of curiosities in titles, etc., one entry in the catalogue of the British Museum library may not be beneath your notice. Anonymous books are catalogued under the first important word in the title. This custom brings many strange bedfellows together under the heading of "Art", but surely none stranger than the tract entitled "Art thou weary?" by the author of "Ten Minutes with Mothers".

My contribution to this correspondence would be from a bookseller's catalogue where Havelock Ellis's "Psychology of Sex" came under the heading "Facietiae".

In a local free library we find three volumes of Anthony Armstrong's sketches of peacetime Army life (reprinted from "Punch") in the "Sociology" section, while the fourth "Live-stock in Barracks", is under "Science".

LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS

LLOYD'S LIST—NEW EDITION

Mr. Freer would earnestly draw the attention of his colleagues to the "Important Notice" which appeared in *S.A.L.* 5, no. 1: 16, July 1937. An initial amount has now been voted towards the preparation of this book, and work on it has actually commenced. A circular letter to all libraries practising inter-library loaning is in the post.

School Libraries. The *L.A.R.* for July gives a 2-page summary (394-95) of an address by Mr. H. B. Lawson, H.M.I., on "Library Periods", in which he distinguished four types of work: (a) Library training; (b) "Book lore"; (c) Browsing; (d) Research.

The Times Educational Supplement's leading article, 11th June, 1938 is entitled "Libraries in schools".

¹ With acknowledgements to *The Observer* (London).

NON-EUROPEAN LIBRARY SERVICE IN THE ORANGE FREE STATE

by

BETTY LEVY

Children's Librarian, Bloemfontein Public Library

The first suggestion of a Non-European Library system for the O.F.S., to be administered by the Bloemfontein Public Library was voiced in 1931, but it was not until November 1932 that a preliminary meeting was held and a committee elected to organize the proposed department.

Mr. Kuschke, Chief Inspector of Native Schools in the Free State, set to work enthusiastically to cover the expenses of running the scheme, and an application was made to the Carnegie Corporation in New York for a grant of 2,500 dollars, to cover the purchase of books.

Early in 1933 information was received from Dr. Keppel that the Carnegie Corporation had sanctioned the grant, and the scheme was launched. Wooden boxes were made for the conveyance and housing of the books; various Non-European schools and social centres were approached and received the idea of book depots enthusiastically; only the most important part of the scheme, the books themselves, was still lacking. The Committee realized that the first purchase of books must be in the nature of an experiment. While they hesitated as to what type of literature would be most appreciated, Durban and Germiston who had both started Non-European Services came to the rescue with valuable advice and gave Bloemfontein the benefit of their experience.

Things began to move rapidly. 300 books were purchased and the first box was sent to Modderpoort and emptied within a week.

In 1936 the O.F.S. Education Department granted an annual sum of £60 for the organization and working of Non-European libraries in the O.F.S.

There are now 480 books from which the five centres, Modderpoort, Stoffberg, Kroonstad, Higher Primary School and Native Dispensary, Bloemfontein, are being supplied. These centres change their books twice or three times a year. A card, on which a record of the number of issues is to be entered is sent with each book. A duplicate of these records is kept at the Library and proves a useful aid to selection when new books are being ordered.

The type of book asked for has proved unexpected. Biography, travel and history are popular, poetry and essays are often asked for, while scientific books, animal stories and books on the useful arts usually prove acceptable. Light fiction included in the boxes is often returned after having been issued only once or twice, and children's books of any kind are frowned on by adult Non-European readers. English books seem more acceptable than Afrikaans; those in the vernacular are more popular than Afrikaans but less popular than English books.

The Committee responsible for the organization and administration of the Non-European Library Service in the O. F. S. works as a sub-committee of the Public Library and consists of: Professor Logeman (Chairman), Mr. Kuschke (Vice Chairman), Mr. H. Scrivenor (Treasurer), Miss Oppenheim (Secretary) and Mr. L. Marquard.

Miss Oppenheim, who is at present touring U. S. A. on a Carnegie grant, is devoting much of her time to the study of problems connected with Non-European Library work. In view of this fact the O. F. S. is "marking time" until Miss Oppenheim's return at the end of the year, when they will have the benefit of her experience in expanding their Non-European Service.

SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION TRANSVAAL BRANCH

An interesting meeting of the Branch was held at the Department of Veterinary Services, Onderstepoort on August 10th.

Dr. P. J. J. Fourie, Subdirector, welcomed the members and gave a short account of the functions of the Department, which was organized in 1910 under Sir Arnold Theiler, South Africa's great pioneer in veterinary research. The Department is unique in that it combines under one head all aspects of veterinary science—field work, teaching and research. Dr. Fourie stressed the importance of the library to staff and students.

Mr. B. Fouché, Librarian, conducted members round the Departmental Library, which is highly specialized and contains a large number of specialist scientific periodicals. The Library is classified according to its own classification scheme, an index to which has recently been published. The catalogue is arranged in class order and, as would be expected, has a large number of analytic entries taken from current periodicals.

Tea was served after which groups of members were conducted through the laboratories. In the Wool Research Laboratory interesting experiments showed comparisons between pure wools and the new synthetic wools now being produced in Germany and Italy. Glimpses of work being done in the pathological, bacteriological, parasitological and entomological laboratories gave members some idea of the vast scope of the Department and its great service to South Africa.

Members were struck with the atmosphere of ordered neatness noticeable both in the library and the laboratories, and the attractive setting of buildings and gardens.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,

South African Libraries :

Dear Sir,

In the June number of the *Library Association Record* there is a report of an address given by Mr. Stanley Jast to the Library Association Conference, which is full of stimulating ideas. One of his most interesting suggestions is that Fiction should be classified according to type. In *S.A.L.* of July 1936 Miss Rowland stated that in the Randfontein Public Library lists were displayed of authors who wrote certain classes of Fiction and that these lists were greatly appreciated by the readers. It would be very interesting to know what other South African librarians are thinking on the problem of Fiction classification, and also what they are doing about it.

In Bloemfontein we have adopted an excellent idea from the Montclair Public Library, that of marking all Wild West novels with a narrow stripe on their backs and all Detective Novels with a blob, the size of a "tickey". This means that the Wild Wests and Detectives are still scattered on the Fiction shelves, but that they are very easy to find. The trouble of marking the backs has been amply repaid by the numerous congratulations we have received from grateful readers (and also from the wives and daughters of Wild West and Detective readers!).

The Cleveland Public Library uses a fluid classification in its Popular Library Department. The books in the stacks, which are accessible to the public, are in a fixed order, but all the other books, consisting of fiction, and popular non-fiction, are re-arranged every few months. The book cases are thus really oversized display racks. When I was in Cleveland, the book cases round the wall were labelled: Best Books; Modern Life; Mystery, and so on. This is an excellent idea for stimulating the reading interest of all classes of readers, but it can only be carried out where there is a very large staff who know their stock, and who have the time to indulge in the constant re-arranging.

Yours sincerely,

GLADYS OPPENHEIM

Bloemfontein Public Library,

25. Aug. 1938

SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

DECEMBER EXAMINATIONS

(a) *Closing Date for Entry*

Candidates are reminded that applications for admission to the December Examinations must reach the Honorary Secretary not later than 15th October, and that entry forms must be returned to him by 15th November.

(b) *Dates of Examinations*

Dec. 9.	9—12	Final Bibliography, etc. I
	2— 5	Final Bibliography, etc. II
Dec. 12.	9—12	Elementary Afrikaans
	2— 5	Elementary Routine, etc.
Dec. 13.	9—12	Elementary English
	9—12	Final Literature I
	2— 5	Final Literature II
	2— 5	Language Tests (if any)
Dec. 14.	9—12	Intermediate Cataloguing I
	2— 5	Intermediate Cataloguing II
Dec. 15.	9—12	Intermediate Classification I
	2— 5	Intermediate Classification II
Dec. 17.	9—12	Final Administration I
Dec. 19.	9—12	Final Administration II
	2— 5	Final Administration III

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

Intending candidates for the Correspondence Courses next year should send in their applications to the Hon. Secretary, S.A. Library Association, P.O. Box 397, Pretoria, not later than 31st December.

N.B. The offering of Correspondence Courses in both English and Afrikaans in the *Elementary* and *Intermediate* Subjects is dependent upon a minimum enrolment of *four* students in *each* language, respectively. In the *Final Administration* and *Bibliography* courses a minimum of *three* students is required in each language, respectively.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

APRIL TO AUGUST

April to June 1938

2. *Grant from Carnegie Corporation*

Resolved : (b) that a sincere vote of thanks be passed from the Council to the Carnegie Corporation for the Corporation's decision to make a grant of \$500 a year to the Association for the next three years.

(c) that a circular letter expressing the Council's appreciation to the Carnegie Corporation, be addressed to every member of the Association (in order that the reason necessitating the grant, i.e. the lack of funds in the Association and the desirability of securing greater membership, may be overlooked by nobody).

4. *Discount on Books Committee*

Resolved: that the President and Secretary be appointed a Sub-Committee to deal with the whole question of discount on books and with power to act.

5. *Resignation of Mr. A. C. G. Lloyd*

Resolved : that the resignation of Mr. Lloyd be accepted with regret and that the Council place on record its appreciation of his valuable services to the Association.

6. *Vacancy on Council*

Resolved : that the following member be invited to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Lloyd's resignation :— Mr. JOHN ROSS of Kimberley Library.

8a. *Conferences*

Resolved : that the Council approve of the principle and recommend the holding of its conferences at different centres in rotation.

8b. *Vacation School*

Resolved: that, so long as the Vacation School is held in winter, it be held at Durban.

July—August 1938

2. *Cape Provincial Grants*

Resolved : that the Hon. Secretary be authorized to negotiate with the Cape Provincial Administration with a view to having the 10% deduction restored to Cape Library Grants.

4. *Indexing Sub-Committee*

Resolved : that Miss G. F. Elliott or failing her, Miss H. Mews, be invited to act as Hon. Editor.

5. *Election of Mr. John Ross*

Reported that Mr. John Ross had accepted the invitation to fill the vacancy on the Council created by the resignation of Mr. A. C. G. Lloyd.

6. *Censorship of Literature*

Resolved: (a) that the Administrative Council of the South African Library Association views with apprehension the present method of censorship of books and periodicals in South Africa and would recommend that in any amending legislation about to be introduced the principle of censorship, in so far as it is applied at all, should be applied through Courts of Law.

(b) that the foregoing Resolution be forwarded to the Ministers of Justice and the Interior and Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr.

7. *"South African Libraries"*

Resolved: that this Council heartily congratulates Mr. Freer and his associates on the successful completion of the fifth year of *South African Libraries* and recognizes gratefully the part the magazine has played in building up the Association and promoting the advancement of the Library Movement in South Africa.

8. *Institutional "Life" Membership*

Resolved: that "Life" membership at the same rate as for individuals, but covering a period of fifteen years only, be extended to institutional members.

2. *Amendment to Syllabus, etc.*

Resolved: that one literature examination only—which shall be *either* Nederlands and Afrikaans *or* English Literature (2 papers of 3 hours each) need be taken in the Final Examination, and that the Scheme of Examinations and Syllabus be amended accordingly.

3. *Training in Librarianship*

Resolved: that the Administrative Council declines to recognize any South African Courses in, or school of librarianship, over which the Association does not exercise full control, unless such school, or courses, be initiated at the request of the Council. All concerned to be notified of this decision.

4. *Normal College Librarians*

Resolved: that Provincial Departments of Education be urged to appoint fully qualified librarians in all Normal Colleges or Teachers' Training Colleges—such librarians in addition to their usual duties, to give lectures on librarianship to students in the Colleges.

SELECT LIST OF NEW BOOKS

*Compiled by*D. S. TEASDALE ¹*Readers' Adviser, Johannesburg Public Library*

100 — PHILOSOPHY

- 136.7 Arlitt, Ada Hart.** *The Adolescent.* McGraw-Hill. 8. 6

Advice to parents of children from twelve to twenty-one years of age, simply & informally given. The book tells briefly why adolescents behave as they do, & how to help them build for character & emotional maturity.

- 170 Lin, Yu-tang.** *The Importance of living.* Heinemann. 15. 0

Homely philosophy which reflects the Chinese way of thinking on the art & pleasure of daily living. The author believes in the value of life as an end in itself, in the enjoyment of the small things of the present, in motherhood for women, in the appreciation of nature. Chapters are included on the arts of conversation, of loafing, of friendship, of happiness, of reading, of travel, of growing old gracefully, & on the author's reasons for being a pagan. Charmingly and humorously written.

300 — SOCIAL SCIENCES

- 327 Hasluck, E. L.** *Foreign affairs, 1919-1937.* C.U.P. 8. 6

An Englishman gives a dispassionate, condensed survey of developments in the many countries touched by the British Foreign Office. The book is arranged in geographical units & is especially useful for a quick résumé of affairs in many small countries such as Albania, Syria, Bolivia, Iceland, as well as in larger ones. Includes a chapter on the Versailles treaty, & one on the League of Nations.

- 364 Hoover, J. Edgar.** *Persons in hiding.* Dent. 8. 6

The life histories & inside stories of some notorious public enemies, told in popular style by the chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the United States to show that criminals are anything but glamorous figures.

- 341.1 Jacks, L. P.** *Co-operation or coercion?* Heinemann. 8. 6

An argument for the use of the League of Nations as an instrument of voluntary international economic co-operation. Such a policy is to be substituted for the League's attempts at maintaining peace through coercion. Some good points are made; much of the material is controversial.

- 351.74 Rowan, Richard Wilmer.** *The Story of secret service.* Miles. 15. 0

The history of espionage with stories of the activities of many spies from ancient times through the World war. A survey of the spy systems used in Europe presents an unfavourable view of modern political conditions. Popular style, comprehensive in scope. Useful as a reference book or for general reading.

¹ With acknowledgements to *The Book List* and to *The Book Review Digest*.

355.09 Vagts, Alfred. A History of militarism. Allen & Unwin. 18. 0

A history of military institutions & their relation to society, from the days of feudal knights and mercenaries to the present totalitarian militarism of fascist states. A timely, significant work, emphasizing the distinction between the "military way" & the "militaristic way", & giving the cultural rather than the economic results of militarism.

327.42 Watson, R. W. Seton-. Britain & the dictators. C.U.P. 12. 6

A realistic, judicious review & explanation of the Versailles settlement after the world war, of subsequent political events & issues in Europe up to the present day, & of British foreign policies, some of which are criticized. A chapter on the German coup in Austria is included.

400 — PHILOLOGY**412 Chase, Stuart.** The Tyranny of words. Methuen. 10. 6

An exposé of the confusion & the lack of meaningful communication arising from different interpretations of words & their varying meanings. The author tells "what has been discovered about semantics so far; what heady, exciting stuff it is; what it has done for me personally in laying ghosts & sharpening meaning; & what it might do for men in general if enough of them could become acquainted with the discipline."

500 — NATURAL SCIENCES**591.5 Ditmars, Raymond L.** The Fight to live. Lovat Dickson. 8. 6

A scientist describes in popular style the attacking powers & the protective devices which animals, reptiles, & fishes have developed for the preservation of their lives & the rearing of their young. Illus. with good photographs.

573 Hooton, Earnest Albert. Apes, men, & morons. Allen & Unwin. 10. 6

After studying man's physical & mental evolution from the apes, & comparing the characteristics of primitive & modern man the author, who is Professor of Anthropology at Harvard University, finds many reasons for believing that man is degenerating rather than progressing. A scientific interpretation intended for the layman.

600 — USEFUL ARTS**616 De Kruif, Paul.** The Fight for life. Cape. 12. 6

New discoveries that have been made recently to cure or prevent disease, the struggles of doctors & scientists to perfect these discoveries & the many problems that remain unsolved are related in a graphic style for the layman. Special attention is given to the recently discovered sulfanilamide, its remarkable effects in curing otherwise fatal diseases, & to the dangers of its misuse. The author shows the weak points as well as the wonders of modern medicine, & makes a plea for a system which will make scientific treatment available to all.

700 — FINE ARTS**747 Miller, Duncan.** More colour schemes for the modern home. Studio. 10. 6

Modern colour schemes are given in twenty-four coloured plates of interiors designed by different architects & decorators of England, France, & America. Accompanying each one is a brief comment on the general plan of the room, the furniture, fabrics, colours, & their relation to each other. The plates are excellent & should be helpful to amateur decorators.

726.6 Prentice, Sartell. The Voices of the cathedral. Harrap. 12. 6

The historical background, stories, legends, & meaning of decorative details, sculpture, murals, & stained glass windows produced in churches and church architecture through the ages in Europe, along with the pagan & other influences which profoundly affected these decorations. The author is steeped in his subject & has written a vivid & enlightening book, well illus. from photographs.

793.3 Sachs, Curt. World history of the dance. Allen & Unwin. 20. 0

A serious classification & history of dance themes, forms, & steps from antiquity to the twentieth century. The contemporary period is not treated very fully. Does not discuss the dance as interpreted by individuals or groups. Much attention is given to the origins & the symbolic meanings of various religious, war, fertility, or social dances of the ages.

800 — LITERATURE**809 Colum, Mary M.** From these roots. Cape. 10. 6

Beginning with Lessing's injection of everyday life into literature, the author traces the various manifestations of literary ideas & philosophies through European & American writers up to contemporary times. Not a history of literature so much as a serious interpretation, written in a competent but rather involved style.

820 Ford, Ford Madox. Mightier than the sword. Allen & Unwin. 10. 6

Reminiscences & appraisals of nine English men of letters, & three American, who have permanent significance in literature. Autobiography enters into the book & some parts border on gossip. *Contents*: Henry James—Stephen Crane—W. H. Hudson—Conrad and the sea—D. H. Lawrence—Thomas Hardy—H. G. Wells—Galsworthy—Turgenev—Dreiser—Swinburne—“These were strong men.”

881.08 The Oxford book of Greek verse in translation, ed. by T. F. Higham & C. M. Bowra. O.U.P. 8. 6

A companion volume to the *Oxford book of Greek verse* giving, in the same order, all the poems of that collection, in English translations. Of the 700 poems some are in old translations, others specially translated for this book. The editors contribute two critical essays—one on the nature of Greek verse, the other on problems of translation.

808.5 Painter, Margaret. Ease in speech. Harrap. 7. 6

Combines directions for effective public speaking & delivery with suggestions for organizing & writing speeches for different occasions, including radio speeches. Appendixes contain reprints of speeches which illustrate various points. Especially useful in a school library.

824.91 Wells, H. G. World brain. Methuen. 3. 6

Lectures, radio talks, & articles which argue for bringing together & concentrating the world's knowledge into one encyclopedia. The author believes that the intellectual regeneration of seekers after the truth in the world would then be made possible.

910 — DESCRIPTION & TRAVEL**919.8 Brontman, L.** On top of the world. Gollancz. 16. 0

In 1937 the Soviet Union sent an expedition, minutely organized & backed by all the resources of Russia, to camp at the North Pole for scientific observation. Four men remained there for several months & were rescued from the moving ice floe off the coast of Greenland. The author is a correspondent who went with the aeroplane fleet that accompanied the expedition to the Pole, & was with the rescue party. The wireless reports sent by the men are included, & the whole book is filled with praise, enthusiasm, & Russian patriotism.

- 914.361 Crankshaw, Edward.** Vienna; the image of a culture in decline. Macmillan. 8. 6

Although it is filled with descriptions of Viennese landmarks, this is less a guidebook than an attempt to interpret, through its history, monuments, & architecture, the spirit of that well-loved city, & of a distinctive culture that is passing.

- 910.4 Griswold, Lawrence.** Tombs, travel & trouble. Hale. 12. 6

The humorous, tragic, & near-tragic experiences of the author in his explorations of Malaysian jungle, & in his searches for dead cities, archaeological data, & large lizards which he calls dragons. The photographs are undistinguished, but as an adventure story of strange incidents & strange countries the book is good reading.

- 914.4 Moffat, Donald.** The Mott family in France. Faber. 7. 6

The Motts were staunch admirers of France & of the French character, but a year in a picturesque old town modified, though it did not extinguish, their admiration. Their encounters with servants, officials, & schools, & experiences with sharp dealing & invulnerable French custom make amusing reading.

- 919.9 Ommaney, F. D.** South latitude. Longmans. 9. 6

Deserting London laboratories for more adventurous work, a young biologist enlisted for service at a whaling station on an Antarctic island. Here he dissected, measured, & studied the anatomy of whales, took trips on whalers, collected specimens of minute marine life, & joined the expedition that rescued Lincoln Ellsworth. Good reading in a combination of adventure & science.

- 914.71 Sutherland, Halliday.** Lapland journey. Bles. 10. 6

A genial tale of travel in Finland & Lapland, in which many conversations with natives are reported, generally believed misconceptions are corrected, digressions are indulged in, & accounts are given of travelling by train, boat, bus, & reindeer. Includes many details of the countries' history, customs, politics, fishing, health measures, & places to stay, as well as of daily experiences.

900 — HISTORY

- 943.6 Lennhoff, Eugene.** The Last five hours of Austria. Rich & Cowan. 8. 6

The former editor of the *Vienna Telegraph* recounts his personal experiences & observations of the political situation in Austria just before its annexation by Germany. Passages from his diary covering events from February 12 to March 11 are included & show that many believed almost to the end that Austria had a good chance for independence, being unaware of what was actually happening. The author is a patriotic Austrian, sympathetic to Schuschnigg.

- 946.08 Manuel, Frank E.** The Politics of modern Spain. McGraw-Hill. 8. 6

A concise, documented account of the men, parties, & programmes that have figured in Spain's history in the recent past, taking into account also the country's cultural and economic structure. It is background material, not a history of the civil war operations. The writer's sympathies are with the Republican forces.

- 945.09 Martelli, George.** Italy against the world. Chatto & Windus. 12. 6

The sub-title of the book claims that it is "the first complete & impartial account of Italy's repudiation of the League and her conquest of Abyssinia. It is neither a denunciation nor an apology, but is rather a detailed & factual study of the historical background & causes, of the international, military, & economic aspects, as well as of the many future implications of the Abyssinian war. The failure of the League, the attitudes taken by England & France are discussed & criticized.

973.32 Mayo, Katherine. General Washington's dilemma. Cape. 8. 6

In 1782 New Jersey loyalists hanged an American privateersman, Jack Huddy. In retaliation, the mob, Washington's officers & the Continental Congress demanded the execution of one of a group of thirteen British officers captured by the Americans. These thirteen had surrendered to Washington on condition that their lives should be spared, & Washington's dilemma was to obey his superiors—the Congress—& satisfy the mob but also to preserve his own honour & save an innocent man—Captain Charles Asgill, from death. This book is the story of the incident.

943.6 Schuschnigg, Kurt. My Austria. Cassell. 10. 6

This record of Austria's internal politics & social unrest is partly autobiographical, in that the history of the period since the War includes the story of a life dedicated to that country. A timely, important book, requiring some knowledge of European conditions.

946.08 Riesenfeld, Janet. Dancer in Madrid. Harrap. 10. 6

The personal experiences of a young American dancer who went to Spain on a dance recital tour, expecting while there to marry her Spanish fiancé. Arriving just after the frontier was closed, she entered by passing as a newspaper woman, & reached Madrid. In that besieged city, sharing the dangers & privations of the people, she parted from her fiancé when he proved to be a rebel spy. At the end of six months she was evacuated from the city, with other foreigners, by the American embassy. She tells the tragic story of civil war sensitively, & without sensationalism.

946.08 Ruiz Vilaplana, Antonio. Burgos justice. Constable. 7. 6

The author was Dean of the College of Commissioners of Justice in Burgos, Nationalist headquarters. As a rebel official, he kept the records of rebel acts & witnessed so many atrocities that he finally fled to France. He reports here what he saw; it is a straightforward, tragic picture.

920 — BIOGRAPHY**920 West, Geoffrey.** Charles Darwin. Routledge. 15. 0

A painstaking biography, giving special attention to the ancestry of the English scientist, & following step by step the incidents of his life & the growth of his theories. The final chapter is a commentary on Darwinism & its present standing.

920 Freeman, Joseph. An American testament. Gollancz. 16. 0

From an Ukrainian village the author went to America, attended Columbia University, & later alternated between Europe & America, gradually becoming converted to Communism. A detailed account is given of his connexion with Max Eastman & Floyd Dell as editors of the *Masses* & the *Liberator*, of his newspaper work in Europe for American newspapers, & of his many observations, up to 1927. A fast-moving, panoramic view of literary radicalism in America before the depression.

920 Megaro, Gaudens. Mussolini in the making. Allen & Unwin. 10. 6

Much of this book is biographical, but the author's chief purpose is to show the extreme changes that have taken place in Mussolini's avowed ideologies, from that of a violent Marxist to the present more violent Fascist. His personal character is interpreted in the light of many hitherto unpublished or censored documents.

920 Sullivan, J. W. N. Isaac Newton, 1642-1727. Macmillan. 8. 6

An outstanding biography giving not only the scientist's personal life, but also the effect of his physical theories & mathematical discoveries on the history of science.

920 Reed, Douglas. Insanity fair. Cape. 10. 6

An Englishman writes of the years he has spent in Central Europe as a *Times* correspondent, with emphasis on the Nazi régime as he saw it rise to power. Highly personal, indignant in tone, but vigorous & entertaining.

920 Riesenbergr, Felix. Living again. Methuen. 12. 6

Captain Riesenbergr recounts in a lively manner the story of his varied & extensive adventures at sea & on shore; among them were his explorations of the Arctic with Walter Wellman. For those who like to read of the sea & of remote places.

920 Ludwig, Emil. Roosevelt. Hamish Hamilton. 10. 6

An admiring, human portrait, attempting to weigh the effect of wealth, family background, early vigour, & the attack of infantile paralysis in forming the character of the man as he is to-day. There is no critical estimate of policies or administration; the biographer is concerned only with personality, & his study leads to the conviction that Roosevelt has neither the mental attitude of a dictator nor a desire for dictatorship.

FICTION**GENERAL**

BAKER, D.	Young man with a horn	Gollancz
BLAKE, G.	Late harvest	Collins
BRUCE, K. M.	Men are so helpless	Chapman & Hall
COOPER, L.	National provincial	Gollancz
FAULKNER, W.	The Unvanquished	Chatto & Windus
GREENE, G.	Brighton rock	Heinemann
HILTON, J.	To you Mr. Chips!	Hodder
HUGHES, R.	In hazard	Chatto & Windus
JOHN, E.	Crippled splendour	Nicholson & Watson
LIDDELL, R.	The Almond tree	Cape
LINKLATER, E.	The Impregnable women	Cape
LUCAS, A.	Old motley	Collins
MACKENZIE, S.	Chosen people	Cape
MITCHELL, M.	Meat for mammon	Heinemann
PRIESTLEY, J. B.	The Doomsday men	Heinemann
STEEN, M.	The Marriage will not take place	Collins
STUART, F.	Julie	Collins
THIRKELL, A.	Pomfret Towers	Hamish Hamilton
WALPOLE, H.	The Joyful Delaneys	Macmillan
ZWEIG, A.	The Crowning of a king	Secker & Warburg

SHORT STORIES

BELL, N.	The Smallways rub along	Collins
BULLETT, G.	Twenty-four tales	Dent
MACKENZIE, F. C.	The Angle of error	Martin Secker
SAROYAN, W.	Love, here is my hat	Faber

MYSTERY & DETECTIVE STORIES

BENTLEY, E. C.	Trent intervenes	Nelson
BERKELEY, A.	Not to be taken	Hodder
CAMPBELL, A.	Flying blind	Collins
CHRISTIE, A.	Appointment with death	Collins
CROFTS, F. W.	The End of Andrew Harrison	Hodder
FIELDING, A.	Murder in Suffolk	Collins
HARE, C.	Death is no sportsman	Faber
HEYER, G.	A Blunt instrument	Hodder
INNES, M.	Lament for a maker	Gollancz
LORAC, E. C. R.	Slippery staircase	Collins
WALLING, R. A. J.	The Coroner doubts	Hodder